



Move over, homemaker

AUSTIN, Texas—Imagine being paged that the milk in the refrigerator has spoiled. Imagine turning off the porch light at home while vacationing at the beach. In the future, when
MOVE/A13

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS
Sunday

JULY 29, 2001 ★ 68 PAGES 7 SECTIONS VOL.16 NO. 231

TODAY
IN THE
Controversial
lawyers Rene
Saguisag,
Raymond
Fortun, Salvador
Panelo and
Oliver Lozano
state their cases



Nene to GMA: Testify

Desierto starts probe of bribery scandal

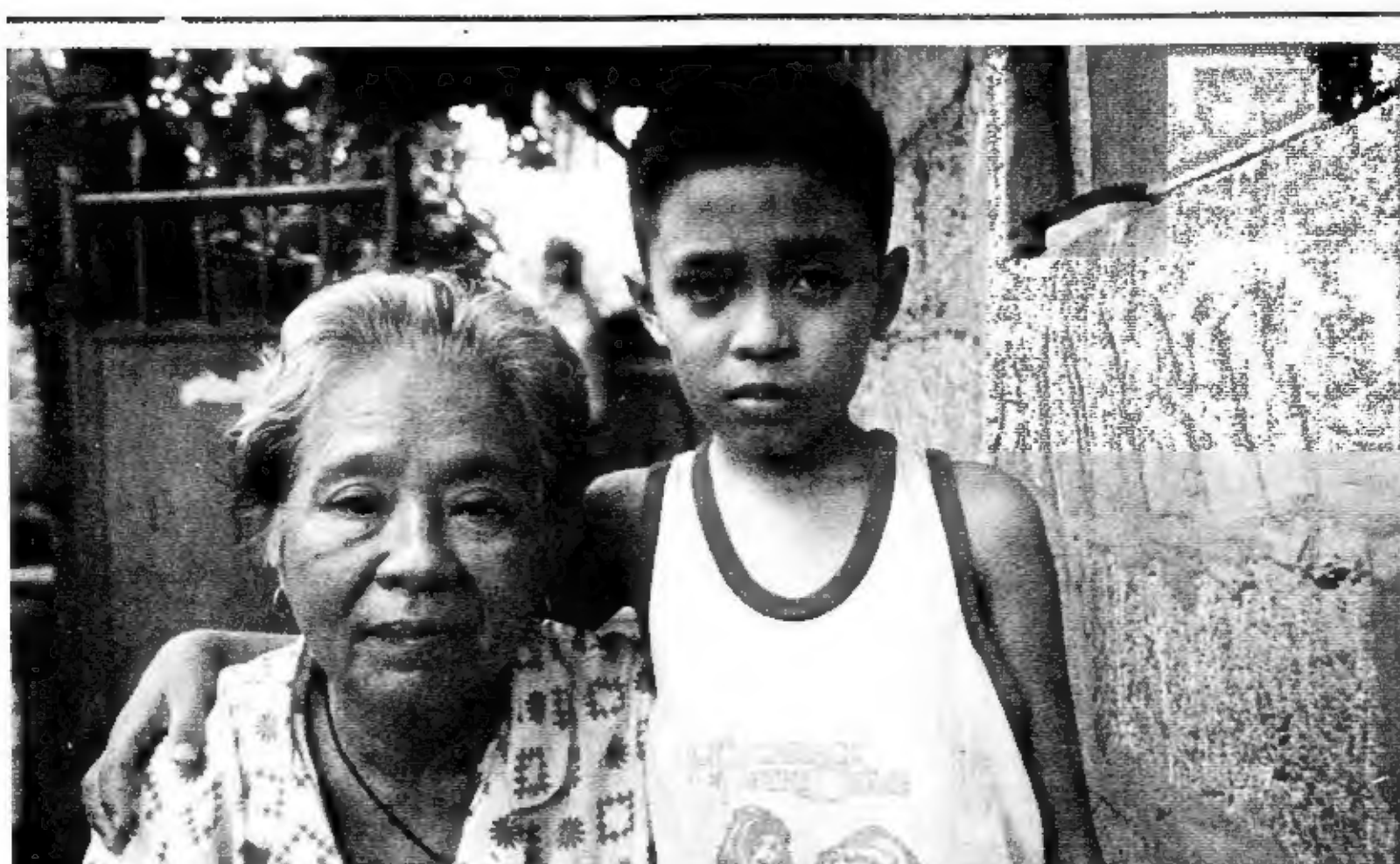
BY MICHAEL LIM UBAC,
PHILIP C. TUBEZA
AND ARMAND N. NOCUM

OPPOSITION senators are keen on getting the written depositions of two women—President Macapagal-Arroyo and her longtime friend and former correspondence secretary Veronica “Bing” Rodrigo—to shed light on Rodrigo’s allegation that First Gentleman Mike Arroyo took a bribe in connection with two vetoed telecommunications franchise bills.

At the same time, on the orders of the President, the Ombudsman has started a preliminary inquiry into the charges against Arroyo, who has denied accepting any money and, according to Ms Macapagal, even proposed that he be officially investigated so “the truth will come out.”

Senate Minority Floor leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. wants Ms Macapagal to disclose the findings of her own internal investigation into the controversy revolving around her vetoes of the franchise bills.

Even though the vetoes are still
NENE/A13



THE ORPHANED Jayson Banogan remembers President Macapagal-Arroyo’s promises well. His grandmother Anacieta, now serving as his mother and father, hopes that he will not go the way of Mang Pandoy.

EDWIN SACASMAS

Boy’s mom was ‘labandera’ named Gloria

BY CHRISTIAN V. ESQUERRA
AND JULIET L. JAVELLANA

ONE of President Macapagal-Arroyo’s three “Payatas boys” is hoping that she will be his “Nanay Gloria” and keep her promises like his late mother did.

Jayson Vann Banogan, 10, remembers well what the President said last Monday in her State

of the Nation Address: “Sabi po niya, itaga ko raw po sa bato, tunaparin niya yung mga pangako niya (She said, etch it in stone, she will fulfill her promises).”

And he believes her. Jayson lost his mother, also named Gloria and a labandera (washerwoman), his father Charlito and his baby brother Justin in the lethal garbage landslide in July last year in

Payatas, Quezon City.

When his mother was alive, he said, she promised him many things—a new toy, a new pair of shoes, a visit to the park—and usually delivered.

Imagine his excitement when the President offered to fulfill the wish he had written on the paper boat he later set to float down the Pasig
BOY’S MOM/A13

Pimentel won’t honor moratorium on politicking

BY PHILIP C. TUBEZA
AND ARMAND N. NOCUM

SENATE Minority Floor Leader Aquilino Pimentel is not about to pull his punches despite President Macapagal-Arroyo’s request for a moratorium on political intramurals.

“If you can’t stand the heat, get out of the kitchen,” he said yesterday at the weekly forum at the Sulo Hotel in Quezon City, in response to the President’s dig at the opposition for criticizing the promises she made in her State of the Nation Address.

Pimentel said the opposition could not simply keep quiet in the face of irregularities. “(Her request is) OK in general terms, but what about the specifics? Apparently, we won’t be able to accede to that,” he said.

Pimentel also went into detail in reaction to the President’s statement that her critics had no alternatives to her programs to solve the country’s problems and ease the plight of the poor.

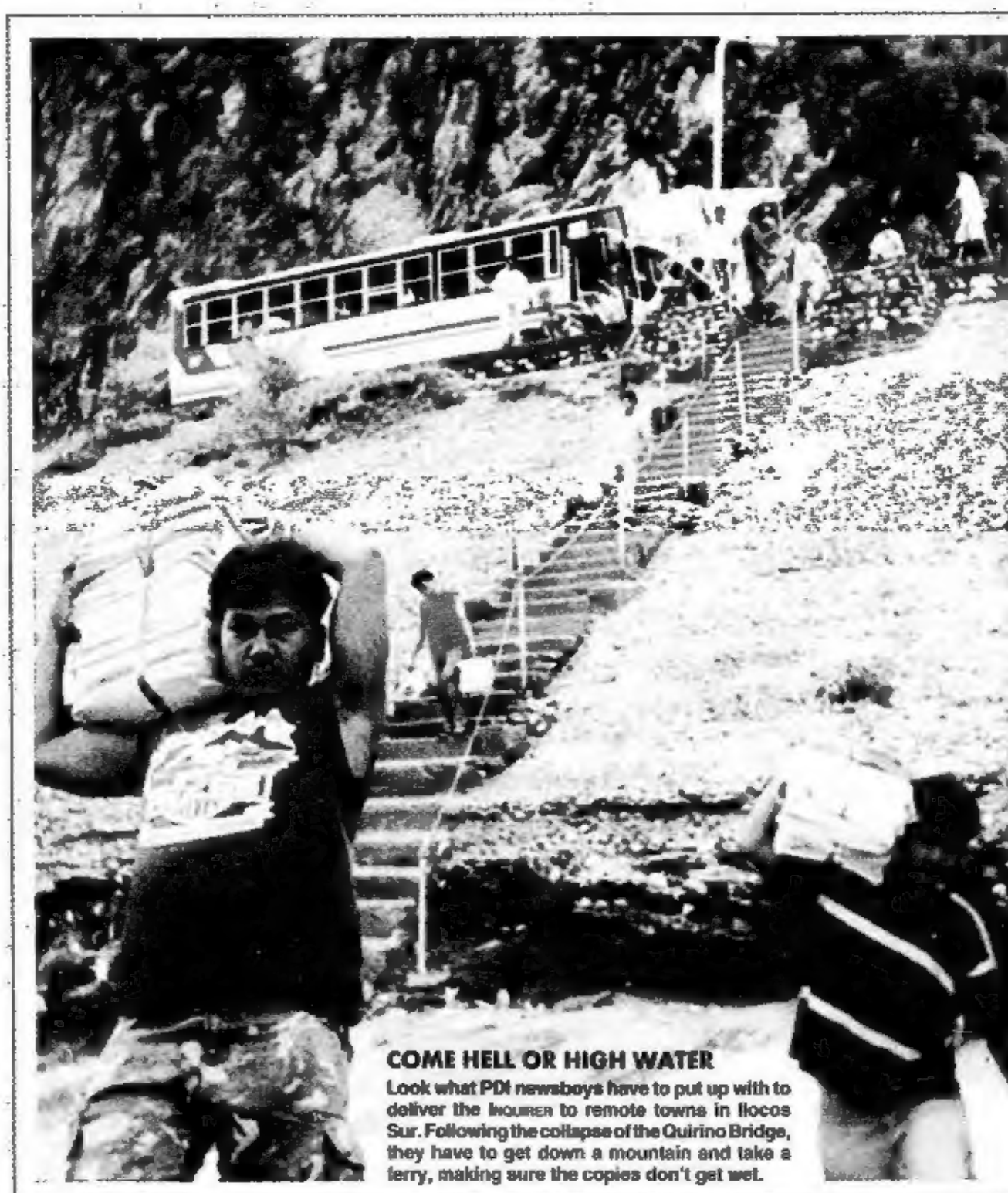
“In gambling, Ms President, we learned that illegal gambling—*jueteng*—is strong in Pampanga,” he said for starters in his weekly program yesterday over Radio Mindanao Network. “We should be able to put an end to that. It is your home province. We should show that we are sincere in these things.”

According to Pimentel, the President should bear down hard on suspected gambling lord Rodolfo “Bong” Pineda despite her close friendship with the Pinedas.

“Now, this is an alternative. What we are saying is that you must enforce the law so that we may stop illegal activities,” he said. “It is not true that we have no alternative. We (do).”

Pimentel said that to effectively fight corruption, the President should equally apply the law against everyone.

He said the government should go after grafters, “whoever they are, be they near you or far from you, *kumare, kumpare*—they should be
PIMENTEL/A13



COME HELL OR HIGH WATER

Look what PDI newsboys have to put up with to deliver the *Inquirer* to remote towns in Ilocos Sur. Following the collapse of the Quirino Bridge, they have to get down a mountain and take a ferry, making sure the copies don’t get wet.

Boy with brain tumor invited as JAL guest on Dream Express

BY TJ BURGONIO

MOISES “Moy” Tenorio, a boy with a brain tumor who dreams of becoming a pilot, is becoming the darling of the airlines.

The 12-year-old boy, whose story has moved some people in the airline industry, has received an invitation from Japan Airlines (JAL) to be a guest at the Thursday inaugural of its “Dream Express,” a specially designed Boeing 747-400 jet with a Walt Disney theme.

Moy will surely be thrilled with the plane, painted outside and decorated inside with Disney characters as part of JAL’s promotion of Disney’s newest theme park in Tokyo, airline managers said.

JAL managers admitted being moved by an *INQUIRER* report and its accompanying photo of Moy viewing planes on July 17, so they invited him to the inaugural at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport.

“We thought he’d love to go aboard this aircraft, which is not an ordinary one. So we decided to get him on that plane to give him a double treat,” said Pia Pascual, JAL’s assistant manager for passenger sales, who had read the story while on her way to an airline meeting to discuss the guest list.

“*Tawag-tawa siya* (He was very happy),” Dr. Bena Tenorio said of her younger brother’s reaction to the invitation.

Moy, who is fascinated with planes, has been invited to roam the aircraft, visit the cockpit and meet the in-flight crew, who will also be donning Disney badges. Junichi Maki, JAL’s senior manager of passenger sales and administration, said in a letter.

The jet is scheduled to arrive in Manila on Wednesday night and fly back to Narita the next day.

Later Thursday, Moy will find out the results of his radiation therapy at the Makati Medical
BOY/A13

A cartoon illustration of a bull. The bull is standing and looking towards the left. It has a speech bubble coming from its mouth that contains the text "STOL" and "NG" on two lines. The drawing is in a simple, bold line-art style.

Binga dam water released; typhoon threatens North


Guazon said that up to 15 families (with an average of six members each) occupied a classroom when the ideal number per room

Alcivar Panga and Cynthia D. Balang

Val Jaramillo of the Napocor's flood forecasting system said the Binga hydroelectric dam released 3 meters of water from its spillway at 1 p.m. yesterday to maintain the dam's level of 565 meters above sea level (msal). **Reports from**
Alcuta Pinar, Cynthia D. Balana and Vincent
Cabrera. PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

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OFWs told: Stay abroad

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo warned the millions of Filipinos working overseas that the country was not yet ready to absorb them and that they should continue working abroad.

"Our country is having a hard time now. Jobs are hard to come by. I am sad to say that is the reality today," Ms. Macapagal said in an open forum aired live on ABS-CBN television.

Speaking in telephone hook-up to a Filipino woman working abroad, the President conceded that opportunities here were not very bright considering an economic slowdown caused by domestic and overseas developments.

"Jobs here are difficult to find and we are depending on the people outside the country. If you can find work there, and send money to your relatives here, then perhaps you should stay there," she said.

"For now, sad to say, that's about it," Arroyo said, adding "the reality is that for now and many years to come, OFWs (overseas Filipino workers) will still be a major part of the economy."

There are about five million Filipinos working overseas and the money they remit to their relatives at home is

a major source of foreign exchange for the country.

Ms. Macapagal remarked that income from abroad—including direct remittances, increased by 25 percent this year although she did not give figures.

With an unemployment rate of 13.3 percent as of April, many Filipinos, including college graduates, find that they can earn much more working overseas as seamen, laborers, housemaids, nannies, entertainers, construction workers, technicians and office employees.

Ms. Macapagal said the government was planning to expand its hiring of teachers in local schools and was trying to lure back many of the trained teachers who have gone to places like Hong Kong to work as maids.

She also said that the government and the private sector were working together to implement an international project to improve the country's image in order to attract more foreign investors.

The project will be jointly financed by the government and the private sector, she said without giving figures.

GMA hints at running for presidency in 2004

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo, installed by a popular uprising in January, hinted yesterday she might run for the presidency in 2004.

Asked about her plans for the next presidential election, she replied: "All I can say is I will do what is right."

"I will do my best and God will take care of the rest including what he wants me to do in

2004," Ms. Macapagal told ABS-CBN television. By law, presidents are limited to a single six-year term.

However, Ms. Macapagal was not elected president but was installed by a popular uprising that toppled her predecessor, Joseph Estrada, amid a growing corruption scandal. This makes her eligible to run again.

The opposition fears that she will use the remaining years of her term to enhance her image and strengthen her position so that she will easily win the 2004 elections.

AFP

Gloria vows to push drive vs Abu Sayyaf

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday vowed to push through with an operation to crush the Abu Sayyaf extremist group even as more sympathizers of the kidnapping band surrendered or were captured.

She made the threat as the latest Abu Sayyaf kidnapping crisis, involving 19 Filipinos and two Americans, entered its third month.

Brushing aside criticism of her mass arrests of alleged Abu Sayyaf sympathizers, the President said: "This is war and if we wish to end the Abu Sayyaf problem, then we really have to act."

In an interview with ABS-CBN television, Ms. Macapagal defended the detention of over a hundred suspected Abu Sayyaf sympathizers this month, saying that halting the arrests would just prolong the problem.

"We really have to bite the bullet despite the accusations against us (and) fix this problem once and for all," she said.

The President denied that they were arresting people without a warrant, saying that the arrests had been carried out in accordance with the law.

She stressed that the important thing is that the prosecution (of the Abu Sayyaf) will be quick," adding that she had also sent a top team of government prosecutors to the south to charge those arrested.

Police officials earlier said that more than 30 of the detained Abu

Sayyaf members have been charged.

However, the band holding the 21 hostages has continued to evade a massive military operation to catch them.

Military sources involved in the search said they knew the general area where the Abu Sayyaf were holding the hostages but could not pinpoint them because of the presence of the rebels' "advance forces" guarding the group with the captives.

Basilan Gov. Gerry Salapuddin said this excuse was unacceptable. He said the military should not be stopped by the presence of hostages among the bandits.

The Armed Forces, meanwhile, said it had arrested the other day 13 suspected Abu Sayyaf, including a nephew of Abu Sayyaf leader Mujib Susukan.

The AFP's Task Force Comet said in a report sent to Camp Aguinaldo that it arrested Mading Jalil, 32, a nephew of Susukan, in Jolo, Sulu, the other day.

Two hours earlier, also in Basilan, six members of the bandit group were captured during Army operations in the northern shorelines of Sibagay Island.

Also in Sulu the other day, six other Abu Sayyaf fighters turned themselves in to the Army in Talipao town, the AFP report said.

Another suspected Abu Sayyaf member identified as Ammad Latip also surrendered

the other day in Barangay Lagto, Talipao, Sulu. AFP with reports from Alcin Papa, Metro Manila and Jonathan P. Ma and Julie Alipala-Inot, PDI Mindanao Bureau

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RP-made coconut dessert recalled

WASHINGTON—A Maryland company is recalling more than 50,000 jars of coconut and sweet sugar palm because the products contain excessive levels of sulfites not listed on the label.

In an announcement issued Friday, Eastland Food Corp. of Columbia, Maryland said it was recalling 1,600 cases of New Foods-brand macapuno strings and 680 cases of New Foods sweet sugar palm. There are 24 jars of the product in each case.

Government testing showed that the food contained excessive levels of sulfites not listed on the label. Sulfites can cause severe or life-threatening reactions in people who have an allergy or severe sensitivity to the chemical.

Stuart Schwager, representing Eastland, said the two products were distributed to supermarkets and stores east of the Mississippi River after Jan. 1, 2000. He said Eastland is calling the stores to which the products were distributed and sending written notices of the recall.

The products are packaged in 12-ounce, clear glass jars with wraparound labels with an oval picture of a bowl containing the product. A rectangular box above the oval bears the name of the product manufacturer, New Foods International Corp. of the Philippines.

Schwager said there have been no reports of illness caused by the products.

Macapuno strings are made from the meat of the macapuno coconut, which grows in the Philippines. Sweet sugar palm is an Asian dessert fruit.

Eastland initiated the recall after government testing showed that the macapuno strings contained 10.9 milligrams of sulfites per serving, and the sugar palm product contained 7.7 milligrams of sulfites per serving. Health authorities say that sulfites in excess of 10 milligrams per serving can pose a severe, life-threatening hazard to people sensitive to the chemical.

AP

OPINION

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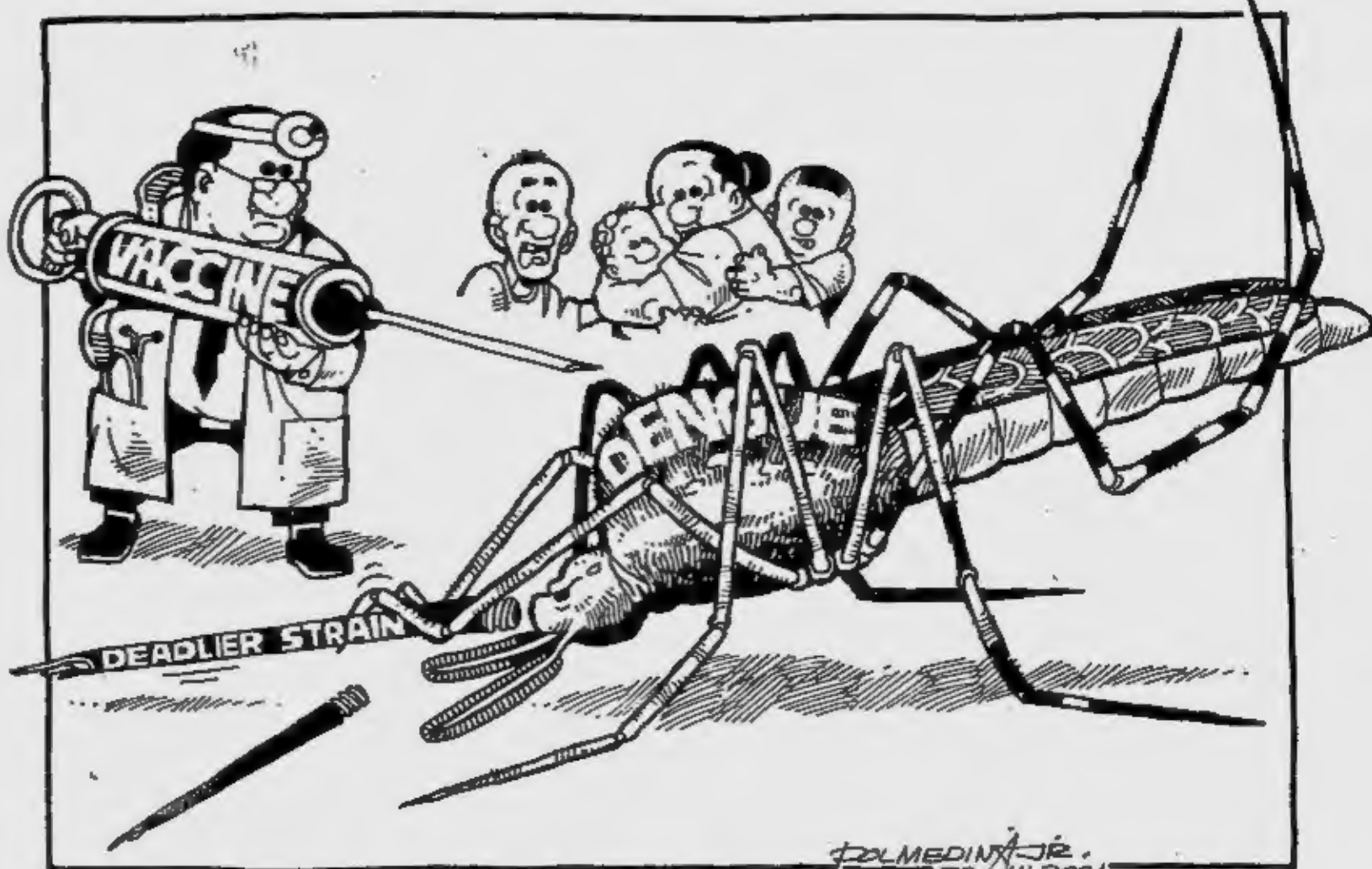
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Subtraction

THE BASIC idea behind the proposed tax cuts is easy enough to understand. They will put more money in our pockets; they will free up more money for investments. Seen in this way, arguing against them becomes almost unpatriotic.

The proposed tax cuts for individual taxpayers would constitute "the biggest tax relief ever given by (a) government to the average Filipino wage earner," Rep. Joey Salceda, Congress' resident economist, said the other day. He estimates that wage earners will enjoy total tax relief amounting to as much as P28 billion.

Indeed, the tax reform proposals crafted by the Department of Finance—to implement gross income taxation; to streamline income tax brackets from seven to four; to reduce income tax obligations of both individuals and corporations, allowing those who earn P75,000 a year or less to be exempted from paying taxes at all—have already been embraced by administration stalwarts in both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

Sen. Ralph Recto has welcomed the proposed tax reforms, saying these would likely comprise the first bill the 12th Congress will pass.

In the House, the chair of the committee on ways and means, Rep. Julio Ledesma, waxed optimistic about the passage of a bill that has yet to be filed. As a sign that he meant business, he promised that the same technical working group that worked on the controversial power reform bill would handle the tax reform bill, too.

"Once we receive [the draft], it will be put at the top of the totem pole," Ledesma said. "We're going to work fast here."

Not so fast, congressman. Only the supply side of the equation is clear. The demand side requires more explanation.

Granted, reducing tax obligations will put more money in our tattered wallets. The tax reform measures then assume, perhaps with some justification, that we will use this additional income to consume more of the goods we need (and even those we don't), thus stimulating a boost in consumer spending. This should be good news for the economy, but as our boom-bust economic history reminds us, consumption-led growth is never for the long term.

What the country needs is investment-led growth. Will the tax cuts—the measure proposes to reduce corporate income tax from 32 percent to as low as 26, 21 or 20 percent—actually stimulate investments?

This is where the government's arithmetic starts to get murky.

Addition

THE MACAPAGAL administration wants to implement the tax cuts at a time when the country has not yet recovered from the deficit spending that defined the Estrada regime. It is looking at a budget deficit of P145 billion this year, and perhaps P130 billion next year.

It is not, to put it mildly, a position of strength.

Even assuming, for the sake of argument, that the new corporate income tax schedule will encourage more businessmen to invest in expansion or growth activities or entice those operating in the underground economy to surface (and thus pay taxes), the anticipated spike in investments will not come immediately.

Former Economic Planning Secretary Felipe Medalla, one of Estrada's economic managers, estimates that it would take three to five years before a shift to a new tax base will result in additional revenues for the government. Salceda thinks the proposed corporate tax measure will prove to be "revenue-neutral"—the losses canceling out the gains in the short term. Representatives of big business say the move might be a "risky change."

Factor in the government's deficit, and things may go from risky to dangerous. The tax cuts may be popular, but they may also widen the gap between what the government earns and what it spends.

Tax cuts were at the heart of so-called Reaganomics, the economic philosophy that directed government fiscal strategy in the United States in the 1980s. The result was massive deficits, reaching hundreds of billions of dollars. Won't the same thing happen here?

The prudent thing to do may be to wait for that time when the government enjoys a budget surplus, to negotiate the change from a position of strength.

Like Caesar's wife

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani
A. Cruz

said this could not be done without an authorizing resolution from the Senate. To my knowledge, that resolution has yet to be filed.

Considering the gravity of the charges against their colleague, I hope the members of the Senate will see fit to call for Lacson's probe. They have investigated far less earth-shaking matters in the past, like the escapades of the so-called Brunei beauties, the non-admission of a student by a Catholic school because of her sexpot image, and even the making of *taho*.

Each House of Congress may discipline any of its members for disorderly behavior and suspend or expel him by a two-thirds vote. In *Alejandro v. Quezon*, 46 Phil. 83, an appointive senator was suspended for attacking with a cane a colleague who had questioned his credentials. In *Osmeña v. Pendatun*, 109 Phil. 863, the petitioner was practically expelled for making accusations against President Garcia that he failed or refused to substantiate.

Those offenses are minor compared to the serious charges against Senator Lacson that deserve, at the very least, a thorough and impartial probe. And it is no argument that investigating him with a view to his possible punishment will defy the will of the millions of Filipinos who voted for him. That same gambit did not work for his idol and chum, who was not a mere senator but the President of the Philippines.

It does Senator Lacson no good to simply ignore the accusations and dismiss them as old hat earlier satisfactorily explained. Earlier is not today. Whatever immunities he might have enjoyed before are no longer effective under the present dispensation even with his current powerful position. The Kuratong Baleleng massacre, which was swept under the rug during the past admin-

istration, is being reinvestigated, and more cases are planned to be exhumed.

Lacson claims Senior Supt. Reynaldo Berroya and Col. Victor Corpus are orchestrating the charges against him, but this may only be a diversionary tactic. It could be a smokescreen to prevent a closer look into what is unquestionably a challenge to his character and reputation. The main reaction to such challenge is to meet it squarely instead of resorting to irrelevancies. The relevant question is not the source or instigator of the charges but their validity.

In any case, Ador has himself come forward and staked his liberty and whatever he owns on the veracity of his accusations. Neither Berroya nor Corpus will be liable if Ador is found to be lying. As for Tulfo, he has made his own detailed charges on his own responsibility and appears in fact to be eager to prove them at the proper forum. There is no claimed agent provocateur in his case.

Lacson's reputation is far from immaculate if one remembers, at least, his membership in the martial law team of intelligence agents known and dreaded for their torture and salvage operations. Two of their leaders have been ambushed by the NPA in revenge executions. The charges made by Ador and Tulfo would bolster Lacson's notoriety as a ruthless criminal disdainful of human rights.

If Lacson does not choose to sue his detractors or the Senate blue ribbon committee refuses to investigate him, there is still the Ombudsman, who is obliged under the Constitution to investigate, on his own or on complaint by any person, any act or omission of any public official that appears to be illegal. When proper, the corresponding information should then be filed with the Sandiganbayan for speedy trial and decision. This is a duty Aniano Desierto cannot ignore or evade just because Lacson is now a senator.

The dispute between Senator Lacson and his accusers is not a private matter. It affects the right of the people to expect and demand that their public servants, of whatever degree or status, be persons of sterling character, of unsullied integrity and, like Caesar's wife, above suspicion.

My dear brother/sister...

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry
M. Orbos, SVD

still surrendered and said: "You know everything. You have a reason for everything. Thy will be done!"

The text message says: God answers all prayers. Sometimes He says "YES," and gives us what we are asking for. Sometimes He says "NO" because He wants to give us something better than what we are asking for. And sometimes, He says "WAIT" because He plans to give us the best, in His own time and in His own way.

The bottom line is that it is we who propose to God. We ask. In fact, we are encouraged to be persistent in our asking and try our very best to do our part, but in the end we must accept that it is God who disposes. However and whatever He disposes, we must still believe that it was the best response to what we were asking for, somehow.

If you want to know what relating to God our Father is like, listen again to that TV ad wherein a son calls his father and opens his heart about his desire to shift from medicine to fine arts. The son has the confidence that he is loved, and he asks. The father in turn is so full of love and understanding. Even the tone of his soothing voice is so assuring, especially at the end, when he says "Te suportahan ta ka." For me, that captures the way we should relate and pray to God our Father.

The "Our Father" is the only prayer taught by Jesus Himself to His disciples. It captures the very heart of Jesus. But don't forget the direct implication of this prayer. If God is our Father, then we are brothers and sisters! We must love one another. We must not kill, rob, use, cheat, abuse or put down one another. We must live in peace, unity and love because we are brothers and sisters in God our Father.

In line with the "Our Father," perhaps we can turn to one another today and say: My dear brother/sister, God is our Father. May His name be hallowed. Let us work together for the coming of His Kingdom. May God help you in your daily needs. Let's work together to help those who are in need. We are all sinners. Let us forgive and stop hurting each other. And let us ask God our Father to make us strong in all our trials, and give us perseverance. In everything, may His will be done, and unto Him be the kingdom, the power and the glory now and forever. The Father loves you dear brother/sister. Me too. Amen.

The greatest joy of any father is to see his children grow and glow. On a personal note, I am happy to see the growth of the XVDs to which I'm some kind of a father. They have grown from drinking club and basketball club to a prayer group and a missioned group. What's more, even their wives and their children are now joined together by this sense of mission. I would like to sincerely thank them for their efforts for our missionaries, and I thank you all, too, for continuing to pray and support our missionaries, all for Our Father in Heaven.

A moment with the Lord:
Lord, you are my Father. Help me not to forget that I have brothers and sisters. Amen.

Rent-seeking franchise

THE TERM "rent-seeking franchise" refers to a government permit that allows a favored group to earn profits without adding real value to the economy. Often, a rent-seeking franchise establishes a monopoly, either legal or *de facto*. The legislative franchise granted to the Philippine Communication Clearinghouse Inc. (PCCI) qualifies as a rent-seeking franchise.

The PCCI's Articles of Incorporation state that the "primary purpose of this corporation is to engage in the provision of clearinghouse services to communications and gaming entities." The PCCI's legislative franchise provides that the PCCI can establish and maintain "wire and/or wireless telecommunications systems" throughout the Philippines.

In a letter to President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo dated March 23, 2001, the PCCI sought the government's support for the PCCI's plan of "establishing a clearinghouse for the telecommunications industry." On March 27, Deputy Executive Secretary Waldo Flores endorsed this letter to Chair Eliseo Rio of the National Telecommunications Commission.

The PCCI's letter explained the clearinghouse idea in this manner: "The concept of a clearinghouse has become an important vehicle for member-institutions of a particular industry sector to engage in cooperative endeavors. The banking industry, for example, has improved its delivery of services to the general public with the setting up of a clearinghouse and ATM-sharing bank consortia. In the same manner, a clearinghouse for the telecom industry would put in place a mechanism that would address concerns and provide solutions to issues such as interconnection and traffic management, easy customer access, seamless connectivity and other value-added services."

A telecom clearinghouse is indeed laudable, and should be pursued by the government and the telecom industry. The idea, however, that a third party like the PCCI, which provides neither landline nor cellular services, should own this clearinghouse is downright rent-seeking. In other countries, the telecom clearinghouse is

CROSSCURRENTS



Antonio T. Carpio

owned either by the government or by the telecom carriers themselves.

At present, interconnection among carriers is governed by bilateral agreements approved by the NTC. The carriers agree on the amount of interconnection fees and the sharing of these fees. If the PCCI is allowed to own the clearinghouse, it will charge an additional fee which will be passed on to the public. The PCCI will be an unnecessary overlay in the telecom industry, providing the public with added cost without providing the public any added service.

The carriers should own the clearinghouse in the telecom industry, in the same way that banks own the clearinghouse in the banking industry. A telecom clearinghouse owned by the carriers does not require a legislative franchise because all their charters allow them to interconnect with one another. Similarly, the banking clearinghouse does not have its own legislative franchise because banks are empowered to settle checks among themselves subject to the rules of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.

The NTC has a plan to create a clearinghouse to be owned by the telecom carriers. The clearinghouse will do exactly what the PCCI proposes to do. Under its charter, the NTC has enough powers to force the telecom carriers to organize a clearinghouse, in the same way that the Bangko Sentral, using the powers under its charter, successfully persuaded the banks to form their own clearinghouse.

By the very nature of the functions of a clearinghouse, the telecom industry can only have one clearinghouse, in the same way that the banking industry can only have one clearinghouse. A

clearinghouse is a one-stop-shop that clears and settles all transactions between and among its members. A clearinghouse, by its very nature, is a *de facto* monopoly.

Sen. Vicente Sotto III, who steered the PCCI franchise in the Senate, stated that there is nothing in the franchise that grants the PCCI a monopoly. He is correct because the PCCI franchise does not grant any legal monopoly. However, once the PCCI is allowed to own a telecom clearinghouse, it becomes a *de facto* monopoly. The PCCI's franchise is entitled "An Act Granting the Philippine Communications Clearinghouse Inc. a Franchise..." The word "clearinghouse" in the corporate name of the PCCI, as well as the primary purpose written in the PCCI's articles of incorporation, should have alerted our legislators that the PCCI wants to engage in a business that is a *de facto* monopoly.

The PCCI's franchise is like a grant of authority to a person to conduct vehicular traffic at the intersection of Ayala Avenue and Paseo de Roxas in Makati, with power to collect one peso from every vehicle that passes through the intersection. The person has not contributed to the construction or maintenance of the roads that meet at the intersection. The roads are in place and are maintained by the association of building owners in Legaspi and Salcedo Villages. At present, traffic is flowing smoothly at the intersection. What is the economic rationale for granting such person power to conduct traffic and collect fees from the public?

In the same manner, what is the economic justification for granting the PCCI the right to establish a telecom clearinghouse? President Macapagal was perfectly correct in vetoing the PCCI's rent-seeking franchise.

Incidentally, who really owns the PCCI? The minutes of the House committee on legislative franchises state that the persons named in the PCCI's articles of incorporation had sold their shareholdings to other parties. To whom, the minutes are silent and nobody seems to know. Will the real owners of the PCCI please show their faces?

Norway's mission of peace

OSLO—Holmenkollen Park is a small hill overlooking the city of Oslo, Norway's capital, and a very popular venue for ski jumping which attracts many tourists. Nestled on the hill's slope is more than a century-old, three-story hotel, copper-red and dragon-inspired, named after the park itself. It would have gone unnoticed by a Filipino traveler, except that it has been the venue for two rounds of peace talks between the Philippine government (GRP) and the National Democratic Front (NDF) since April.

Thanks to the hospitality and diplomatic response of Norway, the once tranquil and icy Nordic air has been swept into the hot, tumultuous waters of a decades-long Philippine conflict.

COMMENTARY

Natalia M.L.M. Morales

Norway's foray into Philippine affairs during the constructive diplomacy it first demonstrated in the early 1990s when it successfully facilitated the drafting of the 1993 Oslo Agreement on the Middle East involving Egypt, Israel and Palestine. Its peace mediation became a role model for quiet, unobtrusive and free-wheeling statesmanship where the protagonists get the space, minus great power intervention and excessive media attention, to work out their differences. Home to the annual Nobel Peace Prize awards, Norway's mission of peace is innate to a country with the world's highest human development index. Jennifer Schirmer of the Oslo Peace Research Institute calls it the creative culture of international cooperation, and the Norwegians are proud of that.

In the late 1990s, Norway saw it fit to play the role of an international peacemaker, a bridge builder exploring unstable areas where peace and stability are always threatened. Its politics and culture tend to lend an atmosphere that is conducive to consensus and commitment for those who are willing to submit themselves to the process of searching for peace. Sri Lanka with its long-standing Tamil problem and Guatemala with its long-term insurgency have also benefited from this Nordic concern and facility.

The Philippines, in the ongoing Oslo talks, has likewise gained a sympathetic ear and a generous sponsor, to help it resolve a long-standing conflict that stands in the way of national unity and progress.

Perhaps unknown to many Filipinos, the history of international partnership between the Philippines and Norway dates back to the time when the United Nations was created in 1945. The two countries were co-authors of a draft provision in the Dumbarton Oaks Agreement (that served as the basis for what eventually became the UN Charter) on international cultural cooperation and human rights. Filipino and Norwegian statesmen became pioneers in the conduct of UN affairs during its salad days. Norway's Trygve Lie was the first UN secretary general who laid the groundwork for the organization of the UN Secretariat. Like Carlos Romulo, who was the first Asian president of the UN General Assembly, Lie incurred the wrath of the Soviet Union when he proposed Communist China's admission to the UN. Both Romulo and Lie shared a passion for diplomatic soirees and American major league baseball, where they plotted out their next moves in the world body while watching a game. They developed a fondness for each other and special friendship. The speech in behalf of Lie's reelection as UN secretary general was delivered by Romulo himself.

These historical footnotes are useful in explaining the role being played by this distant Norwegian country in Philippine foreign affairs. This time, Norway has come a long way in the world community despite its long history as a colony of other Nordic powers Denmark and Sweden for roughly 600 years. Its rejection of any concept of a union (such as the European Union) reflects its aversion to anything that may subvert its sovereignty now.

Notwithstanding its fluctuation between "isolationism" and involvement, Norway has been quite active in lessening some global inequalities. It has contributed much to the UN Development Programme and it is one of the more generous and responsible hosts to refugees from all over the world. In the mid-1980s Norwegian teachers taught their language to Vietnamese refugees in Bataan awaiting their country placement.

The country is still relatively small and its population is largely homogeneous despite the influx of many nationalities now. Whether there will be a dramatic change in the coming years remains to be seen. Pakistanis comprise the majority of its foreign population (they came as "guest workers" in 1969). Soon they were followed by migrants from Turkey, Chile, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Somalia and the former Yugoslavia. Interestingly, there are a little over 5,000 Filipinos here, mostly health workers and wives of Norwegian seamen. As of last year, there were about 100,000 immigrants, making up two and a half percent of its 4.5 million population.

The goal of Norwegian development aid has been to contribute toward making lasting improvements in the economic, social and political conditions of developing countries. Norwegian citizens pay highly for this. Almost 50 percent of their income goes to taxes. Its oil industry, which was developed in the 1960s, has generated revenues that help pay for its international commitments.

Linked to this development aid is the promotion of basic social, economic and human rights. The protection of vulnerable groups is emphasized in its foreign relations and social programs. Inevitably, this has led to its active support for the peace process, which has become the hallmark of Norway's world image.

In true diplomatic fashion, the policymakers in Oslo are reserved in assessing the chances of success of the Oslo channel vis-à-vis the Philippine peace talks. Theirs is still a wait-and-see attitude. But there is a refreshing openness toward whatever outcome the talks might produce despite the resources it is putting into the talks and the effects it might have on its reputation as a peace mediator.

Schirmer describes Norway's peace-building as "encouraging people to be more optimistic without being missionary." It is an opportunity that participants in the peace process must not waste or trivialize. The field has been sown but the harvest will be reaped only through the honest and sincere efforts of the Filipino peace process negotiators on both sides of the table. Will they rise to the challenge?

Natalia M.L.M. Morales is professor of political science at the University of the Philippines in Diliman and a trustee of the Philippine Council for Foreign Relations.

THEY SAID

Rootless

"The city is about to lose another of its historical heritage. We have become a city without roots."
—Xavier University museum curator Luis Ostique on Cagayan de Oro City's Macabambas Cave, which will be bulldozed for a road project

How do you solve a problem like Mike?

THEY were garlanded with smiles, but why did the scene at the international airport where the President saw off her husband as he prepared to board a plane to the United States seem like the send-off of a political exile?

First Gentleman Mike Arroyo has promised to make it back in time for a Senate inquiry into the alleged bribery scandal, but at the rate the political opposition is cooling off its investigative zeal, I have a feeling Arroyo's presence in the country won't be required any time soon.

This brings to mind what Larry Hensares, in an article on men married to powerful women, advised the President on what she should do with her husband. "Send your husband on exile abroad," he advised. "First of all, he's such a big man that he tends to overwhelm you whenever he's standing or walking beside you." Second, he said, there's a real danger in having someone around with the prestige and power that attaches to someone perceived to be very close to the source of power, but without any real responsibility or accountability.

Send your husband abroad, and let him loose among the young women of the world, was what Hensares told the President, though I'm sure he phrased it much more elegantly. Is that precisely what President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo has done with Mike? Has he been bundled off with her blessings, to keep him from harm's way and prevent him from stumbling into any more trouble in the vicinity of Malacañang?

Whether he really did accept a bribe from an Erap croon, or was done in by his own temper and big mouth, seems irrelevant now. The exchange of accusations has already focused the spotlight on him, and if not now, then later, his wife's enemies will sniff out something to embarrass her through him. And as shown by that unfortunate statement about a plot to destabilize her administration, there's a real danger in having a First Gentleman around with too much time on his hands and too much access to the hungry media.

WHICH brings us to our question of the day. What do we do with a First Gentleman?

The hidden injuries of the poor

ON A TRIP to New Delhi in the late 1970s, the cab I am riding stops at an intersection. As the driver impatiently waits for the traffic lights to change, a woman with an infant approaches the car. She is dressed in rags. Half of her face is ulcerated; bits of flesh and skin hang from her cheek like melted wax. I cannot forget her eyes, they are wells of despair. She extends her palm in my direction.

Momentarily I freeze. I reach for some coins in my pocket, but before I can give her anything, the taxi driver waves her away without looking at her. In an instant, her eyes turn fierce; she retracts her hand and lifts it to her face. She scrapes the pus from her gangrenous face and with it stamps her pain and humiliation upon the car's windshield. That image has never left me. To this day I continue to wonder what she told the driver.

In our part of the world, these are the most common "injuries of class," to borrow a term from the sociologist Richard Sennett. To be poor is not only to be deprived of material necessities. More than this, it is to be stripped of self-esteem. It is to suffer persistent degradation in one's own eyes. Sennett originally used this concept to refer to the emotional wounds that the working class in affluent societies carry when, surrounded by a whole culture of success, they seem nevertheless unable to do anything right to improve their lives. In such a world, says Sennett, "social difference can now appear as a question of character, of moral resolve, will and competence," rather than of structural injustice.

But in societies like ours, the more basic injury is the humiliation that the poor suffer when, by the insensitive actions of others, the last shred of personal worth is taken away from them. This happens, for example, when they are unjustly accused of stealing food or money, or when people to whom they have given their unconditional loyalty ignore their desperate appeals for emergency assistance or for mercy. The result is a lingering sense of worthlessness and failure that

PUBLIC LIVES



Randy David

can fuel explosions of rage, of self-pity and even of violence.

The appeasement of this feeling of being trapped in a situation from which there seems to be no exit has been the historic function of religion. But in recent years, it is the mass media that have played a more important role in providing a language in which these injuries of class could be harmlessly articulated and resolved. TV sitcoms and telenovelas have exploited the theme of the oppressed finding success in another country and coming home to redeem all past injuries. What is played out here is the same old narrative of suffering, death, resurrection and forgiveness. But the actual possibilities offered by the chance to live and work abroad, and, in the process, reinvent one's self, lend to this ancient script a plausibility that lifts it from the realm of fiction.

Going abroad is now within the reach of every Filipino, and perhaps more than any other recent development in our history; it is what has changed the future of the poor in our country. There is a parallel development in our politics however that is worth noting. The poor are also slowly finding their own voice and their own icons. The election to the presidency of Joseph Estrada in 1998 is the clearest expression of this newfound voice. Although by no means poor, Erap is perceived as one of them in all other ways—in the way he talks and carries himself, in the vices he keeps, in his simple faith and in his rebellion against pretense in a society controlled by the idle rich.

That he could become president in a country

traditionally run by the elite is pure cinema. It is the *balikbayan* worker coming home to buy the factory of his former employer. It is the peasant's son coming home to buy the land from the cash-strapped *amso*. It is the daughter of the housemaid coming home to buy the mansion in which her mother had worked as a slave. Erap as president was the symbol not only of self-esteem restored but also of the catharsis of role reversal.

This is the stuff of telenovelas, but in Erap's case, success was fleeting and the downfall came quickly. Success spoiled him; he forgot his basic mission. He was not familiar with the rules of the game and he was not careful. His friends took advantage of him, and his enemies could not wait to haul him to jail.

In the eyes of the poor, Erap's failure dramatizes the ultimate social exclusion of every Filipino who has ever managed to transcend his class origins only to find the gates of high society closed. His treatment as an accused felon without rights, a role Erap acted out so adroitly during his arrest, stands for all the injustice and humiliation that the powerless go through daily in our society. If the elite could do this to someone who had been president, they could do it to anyone who was not to their class born.

Edsa III was the baring of all these accumulated injuries of class. Politicians exacerbated these injuries by harping on the theme of social exclusion, but they did not invent them. They were there all the time, sensitive and festering like the ulcers on the face of that woman in India. All it takes for them to explode is a moment of recognition. They saw what was being done to Erap, and they recognized their own suffering. We might change the script in which their pain assumes meaning, but we can never ignore it.

This is not about Erap being restored to the presidency. This is about the Filipino poor being restored to their humanity.

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TALK OF THE TOWN

JOHN NERY, Editor

Please send feedback to opinion@inquirer.com.ph

Was Sona 1 faithful to Edsa 2?

BECAUSE the Macapagal administration is a child of People Power, one essential question to ask in any valuation of the President's first State of the Nation Address must be: Does it reflect its parentage? Does the new government's policy address of the year do justice to the administration's origins and character?

Members of the People Power movement that installed her in office may arguably be in the best position to answer the question. We invited several sectoral or national speakers of the second Kongreso ng Mamamayang Pilipino (Kompil 2) to join the discussion; three responded.

Good citizenship required

BY ATTY. LIWAYWAY VINZONS CHATO

IN EDsa 2, we took a stand against a corrupt President and a Congress that refused to condemn the corruption and immorality of a President, who violated his oath of office and betrayed the public trust, whose authority and mandate from the people had therefore ceased to exist. In Edsa 2, we expressed the sentiment of many in the nation that our country cannot and should not tolerate corruption, immorality and indecency in public office. Were it not for the events resulting from the corruption and immorality in high places, however, we would never have risen up in such numbers and with such disgust. Because of Edsa 2, we now have a President who embodies our ideals and our aspirations.

In her Sona, Gloria Macapagal Arroyo gives us the core of her vision: *Trabaho* (Jobs), *Edukasyon* (Education), *Sariling Tahanan* (A Home of One's Own), *at Pagkain sa Bawat Mesa* (Food on Every Table). She identifies the historic pillars of a national vision as *Kasaganaan* (Prosperity), *Kalayaan* (Freedom), and *Katarungan* (Justice). She also recognizes that the great task ahead is to win the war against poverty in the Philippines within the decade. Her national agenda revolves around four components, namely (1) free enterprise with a social conscience; (2) a modernized agricultural sector founded on social equity; (3) the preferential option for the poor and the disadvantaged to balance the economic development plan; and (4) raising the moral standards of government and society.

Most of the criticism against her Sona is focused on two main issues:

First, that under the financial situation we are in, the national agenda presented is unrealistic and too ambitious; that without the revenues needed for these undertakings, the administration will not succeed. I think this criticism is misplaced at this time. What the critics want is to see success and achievement immediately, otherwise the Sona is merely a promise or, worse, an impossibility.

There is a saying: "Whom God would destroy, He crowns with early success." We have become a society that worships success, particularly instant success; we have failed to accept that it is through tests and trials that good fortune and lasting success come. Besides, I believe that, for the determined, nothing is impossible because the "impossible" is a challenge for the bold and an obstacle for the weak and "the impossible" takes longer to achieve." What is noteworthy is that our President has set her sights on lofty goals. What is even more noteworthy is that a number of the tasks and initiatives specified in the Sona have already been started or put in motion and its achievement will depend on our support and cooperation. Among these initiatives is the development of our domestic industries vis-à-vis imported ones. I also believe that our problem is not a lack of resources but a lack of sharing of these resources. We see this

clearly in the government's tax collection efforts: very few want to pay taxes and, among those who do pay, even fewer pay correctly and willingly.

Second, that the Sona is a political gimmick meant to assure the President's bid for reelection in 2004. Let's say, for the sake of argument, that this is true. I do not see why performing what she promises to do should not earn her votes in 2004. But by the same token, her failure to perform should also result in her losing votes. Thus, her promises in the Sona, if these are aimed at the 2004 presidential election, are more of a political risk than an advantage. She will win or lose hearts, and our votes eventually, by how she performs or fails to perform the tasks she has herself laid down in the Sona. Some critics have even taken potshots at her for her use of the Payatas kids in her Sona. This is petty and trivial. I do not find anything wrong with the dramatization of the plight of Filipinos seen through the eyes of the poor young people in our country.

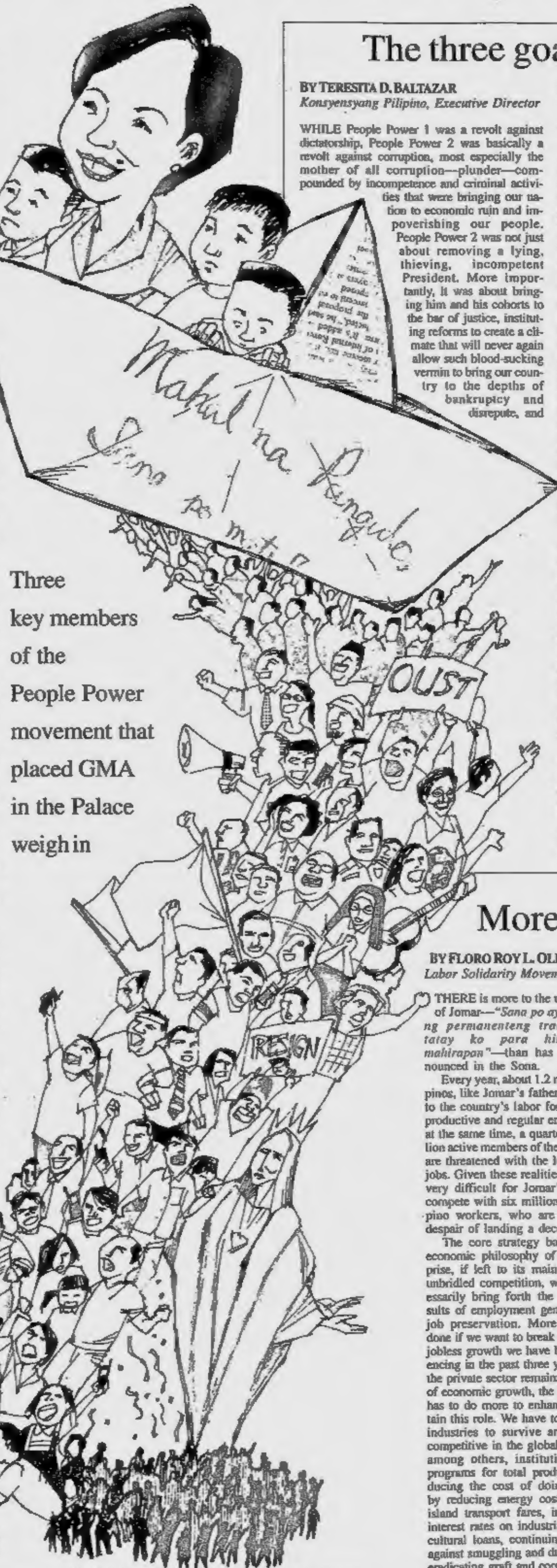
So, was GMA's Sona faithful to Edsa 2? My answer is Yes. But the Sona should not be measured in terms of faithfulness to the aspirations and principles we fought for in Edsa 2. Rather, it should be in the fulfillment and implementation of the national agenda presented to us in the Sona that we measure the President's performance.

But equally important is our response to GMA's challenge. In her Sona, she asked for a stop to bickering and politicking for at least one year and for all Filipinos to join and unite in undertaking the "great and difficult tasks ahead." As long as we are not united in these tasks, we will fail.

A government is only as good as the governed: whether government is good or bad will depend on whether the governed—we, the citizens—are good or bad. There are concomitant obligations for citizens, not only public officials, to fulfill and comply with in the business of government. Good citizenship requires performance of basic duties and responsibilities, for government to succeed. These basic duties include paying taxes correctly, voting wisely, serving government honestly, and obeying the laws of the land. Someone once wrote that "good citizenship requires both discernment and courage—the discernment to soberly assess the issues and to know when duty calls one to obey or disobey, and courage, in the case of the latter, to take a stand."

If the government does not work, we have only ourselves to blame.

(Former internal revenue commissioner Chato is a member of Couples for Christ and the Erap Resign Movement; in the May 14 elections, she ran for the Senate as a People Power Coalition candidate.)



Three key members of the People Power movement that placed GMA in the Palace weigh in

The three goals of Edsa 2

BY TERESITA D. BALTAZAR
Konsyensyang Pilipino, Executive Director

WHILE People Power 1 was a revolt against dictatorship, People Power 2 was basically a revolt against corruption, most especially the mother of all corruption—plunder—compounded by incompetence and criminal activities that were bringing our nation to economic ruin and impoverishing our people. People Power 2 was not just about removing a lying, thieving, incompetent President. More importantly, it was about bringing him and his cohorts to the bar of justice, instituting reforms to create a climate that will never again allow such blood-sucking vermin to bring our country to the depths of bankruptcy and disrepute, and

of course, cleaning up the mess that such a sickening disgraceful presidency left in its wake. Gloria Macapagal Arroyo's Sona addressed all three aspects of People Power 2.

She made a categorical declaration of the commitment of her administration to resolutely pursue the prosecution of ex-President Estrada and his cohorts, to the longest and loudest applause at the Sona (save for the standing ovation for the children of Payatas). Recognizing the stake of civil society in stamping out corruption in government as evidenced by the rich crop of brilliant lawyers, who volunteered their services in the impeachment trial and in the ongoing prosecution of ex-President Estrada, she expressed her support for an amendment in the Ombudsman law that would allow these volunteer private lawyers to participate in the proceedings. She took pains to explain her all-too-frequent visits to the disgraced ex-President, which caused bouts of panic, paranoia and even distrust among People Power 2 adherents. This time around—having learned a bitter lesson from People Power 1, in the aftermath of which Martial Law plunderers and tormentors returned in full glory while their cases languished in the courts—civil society will not leave the exacting of justice to government alone and will remain relentless and resolute in the pursuit of swift justice so that we can stand proudly beside our Asian neighbors who do not hesitate to send their ex-Presidents to jail for graft.

The Sona addressed the problem of graft and corruption by constituting a Presidential Anti-Graft Commission that will join the war to arrest this growing cancer in our body politic, which metastasized to catastrophic proportions during the leadership by bad example of ex-President Estrada.

The Sona outlined concrete measures to immediately address the sufferings and miserable conditions of the teeming poor, who pinned their hopes on an empty slogan and a silver screen hero who did nothing during his presidency but carouse with his midnight cabinet, attend lavish weddings, collect *jueteng* bribes, build mansions for his mistresses, make money on manipulated stocks, ad nauseum.

It is ironic that those who practiced "the silence of the lambs" while their patron was bringing our country to ruin with his corrupt, incompetent and criminal presidency should now be nipping at the President's efforts to bring our country back on its feet. "Wala silang karapatan. Tumahimik na lang sila. [They have no right. They should just shut up.]"

More has to be done

BY FLORO ROY L. OLIVEROS
Labor Solidarity Movement

THERE is more to the urgent wish of Jomar—"Sana po ay mabigyan ng permanenteng trabaho ang tatay ko para hindi siya mahirapan"—than has been pronounced in the Sona.

Every year, about 1.2 million Filipinos, like Jomar's father, are added to the country's labor force seeking productive and regular employment; at the same time, a quarter of a million active members of the labor force are threatened with the loss of their jobs. Given these realities, it will be very difficult for Jomar's father to compete with six million other Filipino workers, who are equally in despair of landing a decent job.

The core strategy based on the economic philosophy of free enterprise, if left to its main precept of unbridled competition, will not necessarily bring forth the desired results of employment generation and job preservation. More has to be done if we want to break the cycle of jobless growth we have been experiencing in the past three years. While the private sector remains the engine of economic growth, the government has to do more to enhance and sustain this role. We have to enable our industries to survive and be more competitive in the global market by, among others, instituting support programs for total productivity; reducing the cost of doing business by reducing energy cost and inter-island transport fares; insuring low interest rates on industrial and agricultural loans; continuing the drive against smuggling and dumping, and eradicating graft and corruption, particularly in the Bureau of Customs and in licensing agencies.

The target to generate one million jobs in the agriculture sector, through the modernization of agriculture and fisheries, is very laudable indeed. This administration, however, should promote sustainable employment in all sectors within its means and resources. More concretely, the basic concern is whether we can sustain and preserve most, if not all, of these newly generated jobs in the long term.

Regular employment should not always be equated with wage employment in the formal sector. The unprecedented growth in the informal sector of the labor force in the past five years should have redirected the focus of our human resource development by providing support to self-employment, entrepreneurship and cooperative undertakings.

The government should promote the concept and practice of social partnership between labor and capital. This will entail confidence-building mechanisms, transparency and cooperation between and among partners. The repeal of Department Order No. 10 augurs well for the labor sector. The immediate granting of an emergency living allowance may jumpstart the cooperation necessary in these critical times.

This administration should continue to aspire for decent employment for all, as it endeavors in dialogue with its social partners to provide for a family living wage for Jomar's father and for all.

vivid for Baltazar.) Mr. Oliveros' lack is completely different. Reflecting his sectoral background, he highlights one particular quote—the wish of Jomar, one of the Payatas kids, for his father to have a permanent job—and builds on from there. He has reservations about the economic philosophy behind the Sona, but instead of opting out he calls on the government to do more to "break the cycle of jobless growth." Jomar's father would approve.—J. Nery

Talking points

ATTY. Chato's summing up of the President's four-point national agenda raises an interesting—but common—language conundrum: In the account of a given event, how much of the report is original and how much a matter of interpretation? The four components are identified accurately enough, and yet we can see that these four categories, which provided the organizing structure for the President's first State of the Nation Address, have also been sifted through a specific mental filter: Chato's.

Consider Component No. 3, which the former chief of the Bureau of Internal Revenue defines as "the preferential option for the poor and the disadvantaged to balance the economic development plan." We can be sure that this is what President Macapagal meant; but we can be just as certain that she did not use this actual phrasing in the Sona. "Preferential option" is rich in overtones that have accumulated since the 1960s, when the institutional Catholic Church in the West

took a decisive turn with Vatican 2 and started coupling faith with justice. ("Development is the new name for peace," Pope Paul VI famously wrote.)

A devout Catholic, President Macapagal knows the weight and import of the phrase; as the country's chief executive delivering her first Sona, however, she must have known that to deploy the phrase would have been counter-productive. It would have, to cite only one possibility, again called attention to her perceived docility to

priestly or episcopal influence. So the speechwriting strategy must have been to retain the meaning but to junk the phrase.

But in an interesting example of the dynamic, give-some-and-take-some character of language, Chato, a leading member of the Couples for Christ movement, re-read the President's third component in terms she and her fellow members are familiar with. Hence, a preferential use for the "preferential option."

In terms of argument, Ms. Baltazar follows Chato's logical flow. She starts with a brisk recapitulation of what Edsa 2 was about, and proceeds to link the Sona with the event. "Gloria Macapagal Arroyo's Sona addressed all three aspects of People Power 2," she writes, and then illustrates her thesis with paraphrases from the speech, one per aspect. (To judge by the number of times she points an unflattering picture of the deposed President, the outrage that drove many to the Pata Shrine remains

very vivid for Baltazar.) Mr. Oliveros' lack is completely different. Reflecting his sectoral background, he highlights one particular quote—the wish of Jomar, one of the Payatas kids, for his father to have a permanent job—and builds on from there. He has reservations about the economic philosophy behind the Sona, but instead of opting out he calls on the government to do more to "break the cycle of jobless growth." Jomar's father would approve.—J. Nery

PAGE DESIGN BY MARLENE RUBIO/ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

The WORLD

LIVERNE B. GUECO, EDITOR

Powell arrives in China on fence-mending mission

BEIJING—US Secretary of State Colin Powell arrived in Beijing yesterday for a day of top-level talks on improving China-US relations rolled by a series of security and human rights spats in the first half of this year.

Powell, the most senior Bush administration official to visit China, flew in from Seoul after Beijing removed one obstacle to better ties by freeing three US-linked Chinese scholars convicted of spying for Taiwan.

Their release this week after months of US lobbying reflected a clear Chinese desire for smooth meetings between Powell and President Jiang Zemin, Premier Zhu Rongji and Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan.

Powell's meetings during a tour of Asian and Pacific nations are designed to prepare for a visit to China in October by President George W. Bush. His first meeting of the day is with Tang, the second talks with the foreign minister in four days.

Hours after Powell and Tang held talks in Hanoi on Wednesday, China said it would give medical parole to two scholars, permanent US residents Gao Zhan and Qin Guangguang. They had been sentenced to 10 years in prison for spying for Taiwan.

The expulsions began that day when academic Li Shaomin, a US citizen convicted of spying for Taiwan, was put on a flight to San Francisco just before



POWELL

raise wider human rights issues with Beijing, including the system under which the academics were arrested.

Tang and Powell emerged from their one-hour talks in Hanoi, sounding upbeat, with Powell declaring an "upswing" in relations and Tang speaking of "new opportunities for progress."

The Hanoi meeting discussed non-proliferation, but did not cover Bush's plan to build a missile defense shield, which China stridently opposes. Powell told reporters he would explain the contro-

versal US program in Beijing.

One potential irritant emerged on Friday when the Washington Post reported that the United States believed China continued exports of missiles and related technology to Pakistan and other countries in violation of a pledge it made to the United States.

Asked about the allegations at a news conference in South Korea, Powell said he had not yet seen the report but that Chinese compliance with the November 2000 accord had been "mixed—some success and some areas that need improving."

"I will be taking this up with the Chinese authorities in due course," he said.

A senior State Department official in Seoul, speaking on condition of anonymity, declined to confirm which, if any, countries the United States believed China had transferred missile technology to.

"They told us in Hanoi that they were putting in place a better export control system and that's obviously one of the things we'll want to talk to them about," he said.

Asked about the non-proliferation issue in Hanoi, a Chinese official said Beijing was willing to discuss it but also wanted talks to cover US sales of advanced arms to China's rival Taiwan.

In April, Bush riled China by announcing a robust arms sales package for Taipei and vowing to do "whatever it takes" to defend the island in the event of an attack by China.

Reuters



A WOMAN stops former Indonesian President Abdurrahman Wahid to pay her respects by kissing his hand after he arrived at Dulles International Airport in Washington, D.C. July 27, on his way to Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland.

Deposed Wahid gets no VIP status in US

CHANTILLY, Virginia—Former Indonesian president Abdurrahman Wahid arrived here Friday for medical treatment, following his tumultuous removal from office by his country's parliament.

Wahid flew to Dulles International Airport from London, and was expected to continue directly to Baltimore, where he was to be admitted to Johns Hopkins University Hospital, according to Indonesian Embassy officials.

Hospital officials refused to confirm whether he had checked into the hospital or what kind of treatment he was to receive.

The former Indonesian president is clinically blind, has suffered two strokes and is a diabetic.

No VIP treatment was extended to the former president as he and his wife were moved through US Customs in wheelchairs.

Asked by reporters how he felt after his removal from office on Monday, Wahid responded: "I'm not sad."

He said he planned a five-day hospital stay.

Before leaving Jakarta Thursday, Wahid promised his supporters not to abandon politics and vowed to come home to fight the hard-line military figures he says conspired to force him out of power.

"When I return, I will continue my struggle for democracy," Wahid told a small crowd of about 1,500 people outside the presidential palace, before driving straight to the airport.

"Please be patient and avoid violence—it's not easy to fight for democracy," Wahid was dismissed.

by Indonesia's legislature Monday on charges of incompetence and corruption. He was replaced by Megawati Sukarnoputri, daughter of Indonesia's first president, Sukarno.

He has called his ouster "illegal." The US State Department said Wahid would be "welcome" in the United States for medical treatment.

"As always, he would be welcome for that, and I believe he has the appropriate visas to do so," State Department spokesperson Philip Reeker said Wednesday, stressing that no official is the US administration planned to have meetings with the former Indonesian leader.

Reeker said the US Embassy in Jakarta was monitoring developments in Indonesia as Megawati began to form her administration.

AFP

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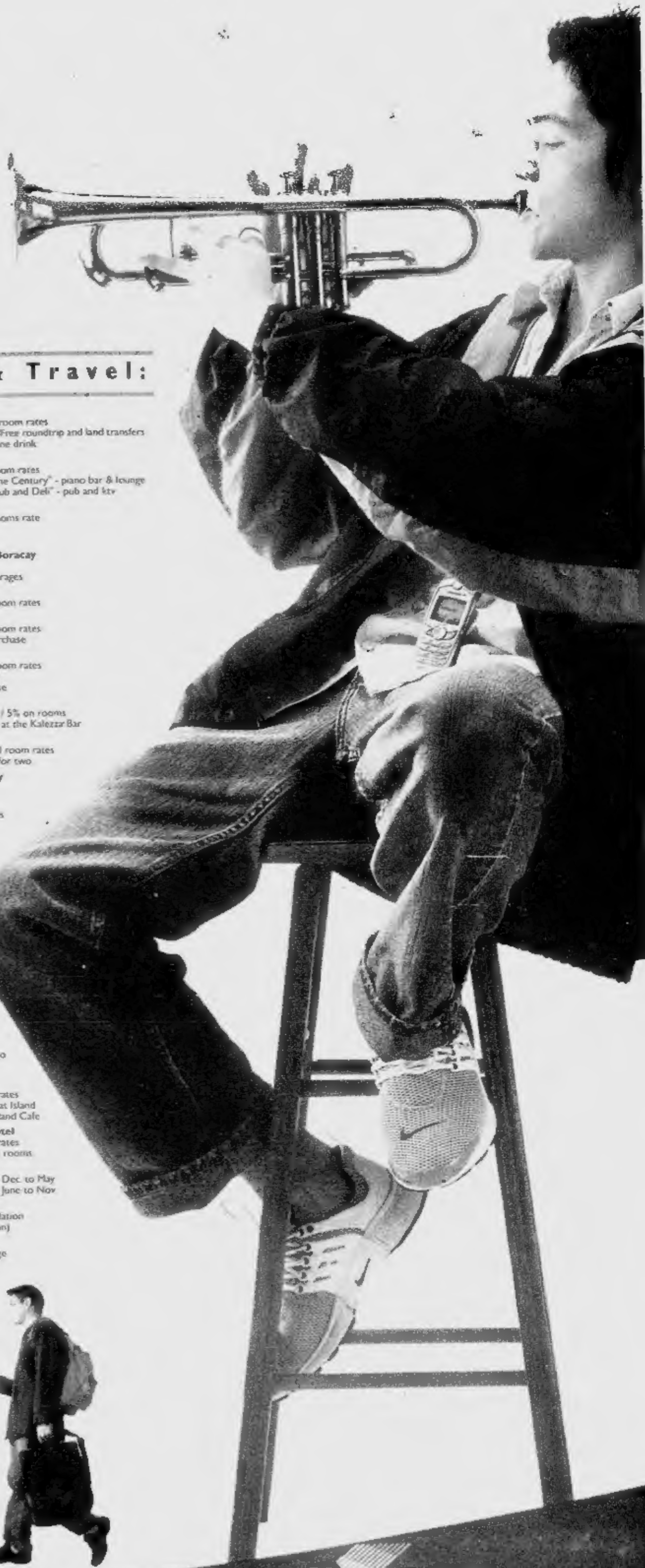
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Teaching meet slams Japan books

US calls back 'embarrassing' Sukarno book

JOMTIE, Thailand—Controversial textbooks accused of whitewashing the true history of Japanese military aggression in Asia before and during World War II were condemned yesterday by an international conference of teachers.

Education International (EI) members unanimously approved a resolution condemning the secondary school textbooks for their "glorification of Japanese colonial rule and history of aggression."

The textbooks have caused widespread anger among Japan's neighbors for playing down events such as the 1937 Nanjing massacre in China and the use of hundreds of thousands of Asian women as sex slaves for Japanese troops.

Seoul and Beijing have demanded dozens of changes to the books, but Tokyo has said it would only carry out two small changes as there were no "clear mistakes."

The EI, which brings together some 300 teaching unions and organizations from 155 countries, was meeting at a conference here, which is due to end on Sunday.

The resolution was put forward by a delegation from South Korea and seconded by fellow teachers from Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore.

It said the textbooks "would damage the friendly relations among countries of the Asia-Pacific area and, moreover, have a negative influence on history that they promote."

"We remind the Japanese government that these days the international trend is to reflect on one's own history of wars and violence... as demonstrated by Germany which has made a grave reflection of its history and given good apologies and compensation to war victims."

EI "urges the Japanese government to immediately correct such textbooks that glorify its wars and colonial rule while distorting the historical truth," the resolution added.

The Japanese occupation of the Korean peninsula from 1910 to 1945 had also been presented as an era of "civilization" in the books, said the South Korean delegation.

"The Japanese distort historical facts like their invasions in Asia in the 20th century and during World War II," said Lee Dong Jin, a representative of the Korean Teachers and Educational Workers Union.

"The Japanese invaded Korea but they are still saying that it was a kind of gift to modernize the country, simply because they have supplied electricity and water."

"But it was a kind of aggression and Korea has suffered from the Japanese invasion."

The books were penned by the Society for History Textbook Reform, a group made up of avowed nationalist historians who assert the country has become too "masochistic" in assessing its past. AFP



CURIOUS Japanese take the measure of the middle school history textbook, "New History Textbook" written by nationalist scholars as it was put on sale at a bookstore in Tokyo June 4. Attempting to get public support for the book, publisher Fusosha made the unusual move of marketing it soon after its approval by Japan's education ministry. Fusosha says it has sold 515,000 copies so far.

Book may never get to classrooms

TOKYO—When revisionist history textbooks were approved in Japan this year, the outcry was fast and furious: critics said they pandered over Tokyo's wartime atrocities, China complained and South Korea protested.

Now it's less likely the books will ever get into the classroom.

A school district in northeastern Japan voted this week to bar the most widely criticized edition, and some of the 100 or so districts to have made their textbook choices for next year have chosen the text.

The trouble the books are having getting into students' hands has infuriated their nationalist authors, who claim they are the victims of a pressure campaign by opponents.

But the results so far have cheered the books' critics.

"Many Japanese citizens, unlike our government, are still conscientious enough to find the book undesirable," said Yoshifumi Tawara, who heads a civic group Children and Textbooks Japan Network 21. "I hope the message reaches our Asian neighbors and the rest of the world."

Most of the controversy in Asia surrounds a book titled, "New History Textbook," a junior high book written by a group of nationalist authors who claim students learn too much about Japanese wartime atrocities and not enough about pride in their country.

The text was one of the eight history books the government approved earlier this

year. Japan's government does not write textbooks, but it screens proposed books for use in public schools.

The "New History Textbook" has angered many Asian countries, particularly China and South Korea, for softening or deleting major events in Tokyo's bloody conquest of much of East and Southeast Asia in the first half of the 20th century.

For example, the book does not mention allegations of germ warfare by Japan in China, there is no section on the 200,000 women forced to work as prostitutes for Imperial troops, and no death toll is provided for the 1937 "Rape of Nanjing," when Japanese invaders killed at least 100,000 people. AP

WASHINGTON—The government on Friday scrambled to call back all copies of a State Department history that details the US role in Indonesia's deadly purge of communists in the 1960s.

In a diplomatically embarrassing case of terrible timing, hundreds of libraries across the country are stocking the recently released history of American officials' secret support for the anti-communist campaign that undermined the rule of Sukarno, Indonesia's founding president. Sukarno's daughter, Megawati Sukarnoputri, became the country's new leader this week.

The State Department blamed the Government Printing Office for issuing the book without approval from State, but the GPO said it had gotten clearance from State in April.

"We did not inadvertently release this history," said GPO spokesperson Andrew Sherman.

"Only within the last two weeks have we been contacted by the State Department and 'every now and then an agency will say, 'There is a problem with a document, can you pull it back.' That's what we have been in the process of doing over the last several days—talking to the State Department and finding a way to ask the libraries to take those books off the shelves," said Sherman.

The State Department said that it discovered this month, before the internal process of deciding when to release the volume was completed, that the printing office had begun distributing copies.

"We asked the Government Printing Office not to sell any more copies because the process was not yet complete and no release date set," said a State Department official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The National Security Archive, a private group specializing in national security issues, said the CIA had tried to suppress the history. The group on Friday posted the disputed volume on Indonesia on its Web site: <http://www.nsaarchive.org>.

The text of a four-page CIA memo from then-Foreign Division Chief William Colby is deleted in its entirety. The history identifies the source and date of the memo, Colby, who later became CIA director, died in 1996.

The CIA memo is dated the day after a State Department cable contained in the history spells out a US plan to funnel tens of thousands of dollars to a group bent on the destruction of the Indonesian Communist Party.

"This is to confirm my earlier concurrence that we provide Malik with fifty million rupiahs requested by him for the activities of the Kap-Gestapu movement," says a Dec. 2, 1965, document from the American ambassador in Indonesia to William P. Bundy, assistant secretary of state for East Asia and Pacific affairs from 1964 to 1969. AP

UK military chief doubts US missile shield will work

LONDON—Britain's most senior military officer warned yesterday that buying into US President George W. Bush's controversial missile defense scheme would be prohibitively expensive for Britain.

Meanwhile, Kenneth Clarke, the favorite to take over the helm of Britain's opposition Conservatives, voiced caution over the US President's "Son of Star Wars" scheme, while also criticizing Bush for ditching the Kyoto climate treaty.

Admiral Sir Michael Boyce, chief of the British defense staff, warned that participating in the missile defense shield, designed to protect the US from "rogue states," would leave little in the budget for other defense spending.

In an interview with The Guardian broadsheet, Boyce said that it would be irresponsible to fail to face up to the proliferation of ballistic missiles.

But he said he had seen no evidence that the missile technology will work. He also made clear that he had misgivings about the American suggestion that missile defense should be embraced by its European allies.

Boyce added: "There is no point in completely impoverishing ourselves in order to provide ourselves with a defense against one particular system and not being

able to do anything else."

Regardless of whether missile defense is deployed to protect European allies, the US is likely to want to use British radar stations as part of the system.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair and Foreign Secretary Jack Straw have recently made sympathetic noises in support of the missile shield plans, while stopping short of committing Britain to them.

Clarke, a former finance minister, said in an interview with Saturday's The Scotsman newspaper: "It's important we don't give an excuse to the Russians or anybody else to start breaking other agreements that might lead, for example, to the proliferation of nuclear weapons."

"The problem has to be addressed but I'm a cautious supporter... If I was asked for my advice I would advise them (the US) to proceed with considerable caution."

Clarke's rival in the contest to succeed William Hague as leader of the Tories is the party's defense spokesperson Iain Duncan Smith, a right-winger who has urged the Labor government to back Bush's missile plans.

Clarke added he was "appalled" by Bush's refusal to support the Kyoto deal to cut greenhouse gas emissions. AFP

US teener draws 28 years for killing teacher

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla.—A 14-year-old Florida boy who shot to death his teacher after being sent home from school early was sentenced on Friday to 28 years in prison in a case that fueled controversy over how juveniles are tried and punished in the United States.

Nathaniel Brazill was tried as an adult and could have faced life behind bars.

But Judge Richard Wennet sentenced him to 28 years in prison on a second-degree murder conviction for shooting teacher Barry Grunow between the eyes at Lake Worth Middle School on May 26, 2000, the last day of the school year.

Brazill was also handed a concurrent five-year sentence for aggravated assault for pointing the gun at another teacher.

The teenager's parents expressed relief that Judge Wennet had shown leniency in the sentencing.

"The judge pretty much did what

he had to do. It's a lot less than we would have expected. We'll live with it," his father Nathaniel Brazill Sr. said outside the court. "Today we start the healing process."

His mother, Polly Powell, said: "I know (the judge) searched himself... and it was fair. But still, for my son, I have to fight on."

"I know my son will be coming home some day," she added, dabbing tears from her eyes with a tissue.

Relatives and supporters said they would fight to challenge a system in which juveniles are tried as adults.

"I will pray for a better system for the next child who has to go through this," Powell said. She hoped to visit her son in jail soon, she added.

The Grunow family—some of whom had asked the judge to order Brazill locked up for life—left the courthouse quietly. Grunow left a widow, Pam, and two young children.

Later, Pam Grunow's brother, Nick

Hlawka, said the sentence was insufficient.

"I can't speak for all of the family but I can tell you that it just wasn't enough time," he said.

Wennet said he had given "some great consideration" to re-integrating Brazill into the community after his release.

He ordered the boy to serve two years of house arrest and five years of probation, complete an anger management course and obtain a high school equivalency degree after he is released.

He also barred Brazill from having any contact with Grunow's relatives.

Brazill, who faced a minimum of 25 years in prison and a maximum of life, seemed relieved, smiling slightly and nudging defense attorney Lance Richard after the judge read the sentence.

He told the court on Thursday he was "very, very sorry" he killed the man he called his favorite teacher. Reuters



BRAZILL

Japan envoy to US to quit amid scandal

TOKYO—Japan's ambassador to the United States plans to resign to take responsibility for an embezzlement scandal involving the Japanese consul general in Denver, Colorado, news reports said Friday.

Ambassador Shunji Yanai has already told Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi about his intention to step down, according to Kyodo News agency, which cited unidentified ministry sources.

Foreign Minister Makiko Tanaka is expected to accept Yanai's resignation and may appoint Ryozo Kato, a deputy

foreign minister, Kyodo said.

Kyodo said Yanai felt responsible for the foreign ministry's dismissal of Makoto Mizutani, the Japanese consul general in the US city of Denver, because he had recommended Mizutani to the post.

Yanai is likely to formally vacate his post sometime in early August, the mass-circulation Asahi newspaper said on Saturday.

The Foreign Ministry on Thursday fired Mizutani after it found that he embezzled \$81,600 in government funds.

Mizutani, 52, reported to Tokyo that \$185,000 was spent repairing his official residence in Cherry Hills, Colorado, when he began work in August 1999 as Japan's first professional representative in Denver. But the actual amount spent was \$12,000, according to a report issued by the ministry.

It said Mizutani used the difference of \$73,000 to inappropriately purchase paintings and furniture for his official residence. Mizutani also embezzled \$8,600 by padding bills to the Tokyo gov-

ernment, the report said.

Mizutani later repaid all the money, the ministry said.

The ministry has been plagued by several fraud and embezzlement scandals, in which senior officials misused public funds.

Also likely to resign over the recent ministry scandals are Sodayuki Hayashi, the ambassador to Britain, Kunihiko Saito, head of the state-run Japan International Cooperation Agency, and Vice Foreign Minister Yutaka Kawashima, the Asahi said yesterday. AP

Cops grill Condit for 4th time

WASHINGTON—Democratic Congressman Gary Condit was questioned for a fourth time by Washington police, as well as by the US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), in the case of Chandra Levy, a missing former intern with whom he had been linked romantically, police said Friday.

Police confirmed in a statement that representatives of the Washington police force and the FBI had met with Condit and his lawyer, Abbe Lowell, in Lowell's office. The purpose of the one-hour meeting, police said, "was to discuss matters pertaining to the ongoing investigation into the disappearance of Ms Levy."

Levy, 24, has been missing since April 30, shortly after finishing an internship with the US Federal Bureau of Prisons here.

After initially denying any romantic involvement with Levy, the 53-year-old Condit, who is married with two children, told police he had had an affair with the intern, launching a media frenzy of a caliber unseen since the days of the Bill Clinton-Monica Lewinsky scandal.

Condit has not been officially named a suspect, nor is the investigation classified as criminal. But pressure on Condit from his congressional colleagues has been mounting.

Interviewed by CNN television late Thursday, Republican Representative Scott McInnis, who considers himself a friend of Condit, said the California Democrat should resign based on his conduct.

"Gary Condit has brought disgrace to this institution through his behavior," McInnis said. AFP



WASHINGTON Police Academy cadets search in Rock Creek Park in Washington July 26 for clues in the disappearance of intern Chandra Levy. AP

Mandela unfazed as he gets cancer treatment

JOHANNESBURG—Nelson Mandela, under treatment for prostate cancer, is cutting back a hectic schedule that includes mediating peace talks on Burundi, raising questions about his long-term public role.

The white-haired Mandela, who turned 83 on July 18, has aged visibly in recent years, and often leans on others' shoulders for support, but still delights audiences with his self-deprecating talk at the functions he attends virtually every day.

"Even though I am an old man I do not dwell on the possibility of death," he said at one of several birthday parties thrown for him by adoring South Africans. "Death comes when it is ready."

His spokesperson, Zeldi la Grange, emphasized Tuesday in announcing the "microscopic" cancer—common in men of Mandela's age—that it was not life-threatening.

She said then that she believed that the former president would be able to maintain his schedule during the seven weeks of daily radiotherapy, but had to backtrack Wednesday after his first session fatigued him so much that he missed the award of a medal from Zulu

King Goodwill Zwelithini.

He also skipped a session of Burundi peace talks in Pretoria the following day.

Retired Anglican archbishop Desmond Tutu, a fellow Nobel Peace Prize laureate and prostate cancer sufferer, commented: "He is crazy. He gets about as if he were half his age. He leaves me panting in exhaustion just looking at the schedule he keeps. He is incredible."

Tutu advised Mandela to rest, adding that he might need to be "retrained."

Mandela still suffers from a game knee injured during a fall in prison on Robben Island, off Cape Town, and his eyesight is weak—photographers are always asked not to use flashes on him—after years of working in the lime quarry on Robben Island.

But doctors say his general health is excellent.

He rises early and sticks to a sensible diet, and is just as busy as during his 1994-1999 presidency.

Projects include working on the second volume of his memoirs, AIDS education and twisting the arms of South African businesses to build primary schools in remote areas. AFP

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Across the NATION

TONY BERGONIA, Assistant Editor

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Baisnes Group of Islands and Cagayan including Cagayan Islands will have stormy weather and the coastal waters of these areas will be rough to very rough. The rest of Northern Luzon will have rains and occasional gusty winds with moderate to rough seas. The rest of Luzon and Western Visayas will experience monsoon rains while the rest of the country will be cloudy with scattered rain showers and thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Monsoon rains	HI 29° Lo 24°
Baguio	Monsoon rains	HI 29° Lo 19°
Tuguegarao	Stormy	HI 29° Lo 21°
Laosig	Stormy	HI 29° Lo 24°
Clark Zone	Monsoon rains	HI 29° Lo 24°
Tagaytay	Monsoon rains	HI 27° Lo 20°
Legazpi	Monsoon rains	HI 30° Lo 24°
Calapan	Monsoon rains	HI 30° Lo 23°
Bacolod	Monsoon rains	HI 30° Lo 25°
Batas	Monsoon rains	HI 30° Lo 25°
Cebu	Cloudy with rains	HI 30° Lo 24°
Tacolbana	Monsoon rains	HI 31° Lo 25°
San. Santos	Cloudy with rains	HI 30° Lo 23°
Zamboanga	Cloudy with rains	HI 30° Lo 24°
Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with rains	HI 32° Lo 25°
Davao	Cloudy with rains	HI 31° Lo 24°

Compiled by: Amira P. Adina, PDI Research/07/29/01

ROUNDUP

Jail for shabu peddler

BAGUIO CITY—Judge Antonio Reyes of the regional trial court here sentenced a man to two years in prison for selling P500 worth of shabu in April last year. Reyes dismissed the claims of Crispolo Valente that he was framed up by the police during a buy-bust operation. Reyes, however, acquitted Medardo Jimenez and Eldam Collantes, who were accused of selling shabu together with Valente, due to lack of evidence. *Sandra Go and Michelle Angelie Mendoza, PDI Northern Luzon*

250 farmers get land

IBA, Zamboanga—The Department of Agrarian Reform distributed Certificates of Land Ownership Award covering 229.5 hectares of public and private lands to 250 farmers here Wednesday. DAR Regional Director Nestor Acosta said the World Bank funded the agrarian community projects for P80 million to boost farm production in Cabangan and San Antonio towns. *Cesar Villa, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

5 suspected NPA captured

TUGUEGARAO CITY—Two suspected New People's Army rebels were wounded Monday when a group of rebels clashed with government soldiers at Barangay Abbariongan in Sto. Niño town. Five other rebels were captured. Seized from them were high-powered guns and anti-government documents. *Estanislao Caldez and Villamor Visaya Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Dengue returns to sow terror in the provinces

DENGUE fever returned like a nightmare. But the terror it now sows nationwide is real.

Everywhere there's stagnant water, the *aedes aegypti*, the dengue-carrying mosquito species, spreads dengue like a plague.

In Negros Occidental and Bacolod City, the number of dengue cases continues to rise. There were 493 cases as of yesterday.

In Bacolod City, at least 353 persons were found to have dengue, according to Warito Valiente of the city health office.

In Negros Occidental there were at least 138 cases, said Dr. Ernesto Malvas, provincial health officer.

The cases were recorded since January but most, or about 400 cases, were detected in June and this month.

Malvas said the number of cases in the province could be as high as 600 since cases of dengue in remote areas have not been reported yet.

Dengue spared no one, not even former Negros Occidental Gov. Rafael Coscolluela.

Dr. Remedios Ortíz said Coscolluela had been taken off the respirator and his condition was improving. His blood platelet count also

increased to 73,000 from an earlier low of 19,000. The normal platelet count level is 150,000 to 250,000.

Malvas said recent rains might have led to the spread of the mosquito-borne disease. Eliminating the breeding places of the day-biting *aedes aegypti* mosquitoes, which breed on clean and stagnant water, can prevent dengue fever.

Dengue is a viral infection common throughout the tropical regions of the world, a paper by Dr. Alan Spira of The Travel Medicine Center in Beverly Hills, California said.

Dengue has a short incubation period—often days, usually less than a week. The signs and symptoms of dengue include a sudden, rapidly climbing fever, severe headache, nausea and vomiting, loss of appetite, rash and deep muscle and joint pains, Spira's paper said.

The fear that the disease struck in the hearts of people was so intense that in Digos City, stores reported brisk sales of insecticides, repellants and other products that could kill or ward off mosquitoes.

The fear is not baseless. In Digos alone, at least three people already

died of dengue while dozens of others were brought to hospitals.

The city council declared a state of emergency in the city's 26 villages to allow the city government to appropriate and use 5 percent of its budget as a calamity fund for an aggressive anti-dengue campaign.

Storeowners said because of the dengue scare, the sale of anti-mosquito products had been brisk.

"Anything that is anti-mosquito sells fast these days, despite the crisis," a businessman

said. Although the sale of anti-mosquito products was brisk, most vendors and stores here have not increased the prices of these commodities.

A 150 ml bottle of petroleum-based spray solution still costs P29.50 while a 50 ml bottle of mosquito repellent lotion is priced at P47.

"Maybe businessmen felt that it is not good to cash in on the dengue fear," said Mita Crescencia, a storekeeper.

"Sometimes we have to order every three days. In the past, we only replenish our stock once a month," Crescencia said.

Dr. Salud de la Cruz, municipal health officer II, said it is good that people are learning to fight dengue, but she added that using anti-mosquito products is not enough. "People should learn that cleanliness is still the best weapon against dreaded diseases such as dengue," De la Cruz said.

She said residents have to get rid of stagnant water in cans or used tires, which are favorite breeding places of the *aedes aegypti* or tiger mosquito, the carrier of the dengue virus.

Barangay officials have also used 5 percent of their funds to start massive fogging in potential dengue areas.

The move, Mayor Arsenio Latasa said, could be one of the reasons Digos has the lowest number of dengue cases in the region.

The city council, with the help of the education department, has launched a program called "The little dengue brigade," anti-dengue teams composed of elementary school pupils.

The task of the brigades is to clear their schools of mosquito breeding places through cleanliness drives. *Carla P. Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau and Allan Nawal, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Sagada folk tell rebs, troops: Fight elsewhere

BAGUIO CITY—Residents of the tourist town of Sagada in Mt. Province have asked the Philippine Army and the New People's Army to do their fighting elsewhere and leave the town alone to keep it a "peace zone."

Sagada Mayor Thomas Kilip said the residents wanted to open their communication lines with the Army and the NPA's Leonardo Pasi Command to assert their right to live in peace, following recent skirmishes between government troops and communist guerrillas who are waging war in the countryside.

"We want to assert our civilian rights to remind both... the conflicting parties (of) the (need for) security of the civilian population. Although there is tension between them, we hope that the people of Sagada would not be disrupted in their farming activities," Kilip told the INQUIRER.

The residents' appeal came after four government soldiers were killed during an encounter with NPA rebels in Lake Danum, near Sagada, on June 12.

A team of soldiers belonging to the 22nd Special Forces Company was given the task of securing the area where a multi-sectoral group was scheduled to plant trees.

Sagada residents expressed alarm as the firefight broke the silence of the town since it was declared a peace zone in 1987.

Residents said the tourist town, which is more than 400 km north of Metro Manila, had been the scene of violent encounters between the NPA and the military in the 1970s.

Kilip said the residents have welcomed the holding of dialogues with either of the two parties to maintain peace in the town, a popular tourist haunt known for its pine forests, caves, waterfalls and ancient burial grounds.

"We just want to remind the government that the residents of Sagada do not favor the presence of Army soldiers in the area. The peace zone (declaration) is a way of dealing with the armed conflict, and as much as possible, civilians should not be dragged into the crossfire," he said.

"We also want to clarify that the declaration of a peace zone is a concept and not a solution to the conflict. The peace zone is intended to mitigate the heavy effects of this conflict."

Dino Kalayaan, spokesperson of the Kabataan Makabayan-Datoka, the NPA's youth arm operating in the Mt. Province, said the peace zone declaration "is not as realistic as before."

"We have to remember that there is an existing war between the government and the NPA, especially at this point that we have to defend the land of our people from mining, construction of dams and militarization," Kalayaan told the INQUIRER. *Desiree Caliza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

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INQUIRER Mindanao

JUN BANDATREL, Editor ■ NICO A. ALCONABA, Bureau Chief

Tearing the land apart

BY MA. KRISTINA E. CASSION
Butuan City

IN THE highlands of Agusan del Sur, a woeful harvest is about to commence. Its rarest resource—the forest lands—is about to fall into the hands of five companies with their heavy equipment raring to tear the land apart.

Considered an ancestral domain of Banwaon, Higaonon, Manobo and Talaandig tribes, these forest lands, where Apitong, Yakal, Narra and other indigenous trees are about to grow into fullness; where wild pigs and deer roam below lush forest covers while the *almikton* hovers above and where still undocumented species of flora and fauna abound, is where five multinational companies are about to set up their tree plantations with the government's consent.

The five companies, Techland Inc., Shanalyne Inc., Goldenbell Mills Inc., Caraga Forest Inc. and Transland Inc., have been established by New Zealand, Singaporean and Filipino nationals who will spend around \$100 million on a plantation of Acacia Mangium to produce globally competitive pulp and paper products.

The firms were recently given the go-signal after Environment Secretary Heherson Alvarez signed an Integrated Forest Management Agreement (IFMA) with them this June.

The tree plantations will cover the forest areas of Loreto, Esperanza, San Luis, and La Paz towns.

Elias Serapi Jr., Department of Environment and Natural Resources director for the Caraga Region, said "the region, especially Agusan del Sur, is privileged to have been chosen as (the) site for this kind of investment to bolster our economy and generate more income."

Serapi said some 5,000 persons will be employed by the companies and several thousands more will benefit through allied businesses such as trucking, housing and food.

Government is also optimistic that the entry of these companies will attract more than a billion US dollars worth of foreign capital investments that will help the Philippine wood industry contribute an annual \$300 million in foreign exchange earnings for the country.

With the tree plantation investment projects in the province, the DENR is positive that the country's dependence on imported wood, which is re-

portedly draining its dollar reserves, will slow down.

IPRA violation

Despite accusations from the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP)—Caraga on alleged violations of the Indigenous People's Rights Act (IPRA) concerning "prior information and consent of the majority of the indigenous peoples concerned for any exploitation on ancestral domains," the DENR is ready to defend the companies.

The DENR said prior consultations have been done three years ago.

"The NCIP people are sleeping on their jobs that's why they were not aware that the people had been consulted," Serapi said.

But Datu Amba of the Higaonon tribe in Esperanza town, said there was no consultation.

"Last election, we were asked by the mayor of Esperanza to sign a document and we were made to believe that it was for our assigned polling places. We never thought that it would be made out as proof of our consent to the entry of the tree plantation investment," Datu Amba said.

Abundance

In San Luis town, Otto Badbaran of the Tagumahan, the municipal level organization of the Banwaon tribe, shared Datu Amba's complaint. "Shanalyne and Techland or any other company that intends to put up a tree plantation here in San Luis have not consulted any of the Banwaon clans. We were surprised when the news broke out that they were coming here," Otto said in Butuan.

The DENR claimed the denuded forest areas of Agusan del Sur will be rehabilitated for income-generation through the tree plantations. Since the plantation phase is labor-intensive, the tribes will be employed and will receive the minimum wage as mandated by the law.

But Rowel Badbaran, chair of the Kabugpungan sa mga Nagkahiusang Lumad (Kasalul), a regional alliance of Tribal Filipino organizations in Northern Mindanao, denied that the



THE FORESTS of Agusan del Sur are being replaced by plantations of genetically modified trees.

MA. KRISTINA CASSION

forests in Agusan del Sur are already denuded.

"If they can only visit our places, they will see the different species of indigenous trees. In the forest areas, it is already dark even if it is still 3 p.m. because of the abundance of forest cover. Not only that, young hardwood in our forests are beginning to grow into maturity," Badbaran said.

He added that they do not need foreign species like Acacia Mangium which, he said, is genetically modified, to replace the indigenous trees because they know it can only cause more harm than good to the ecosystem.

Genetically-modified tree

Kasalul plans to file a petition before the provincial government of Agusan del Sur to protest the entry of the firms.

While genetically modified (GM) crops are under siege, the seeds of a quiet GM revolution are being sown in the world's forests. Biotechnology companies have linked up with key

players in the industrial forest sector to support research that will increase tree growth rates, modify wood structure, alter trees' reproductive cycles, improve tolerance to certain herbicides and perhaps store more of the gases that are responsible for climate change.

One of its products is the Mangium tree, botanically known as the Acacia Mangium, which is said to be a promising, fast-growing species. This robust tree is a native of tropical Queensland, Australia, and also grown in Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Vietnam and Bangladesh.

In the Philippines, Acacia Mangium has been introduced in Misamis Oriental, Masin in Leyte, Sto. Tomas in Davao del Norte, Marikina in Marikina City, Bilas in Bohol, Pasonanca in Zamboanga City, Bislig in Surigao del Sur, in Bataan and now in Agusan del Sur.

Since its introduction to the country the Mangium tree has been used by the pulp and paper industry be-

cause of its strong and luminous fiber.

Researches made by the World Wildlife Foundation (WWF), however, pointed out the risks posed by genetically altered tree species on the environment.

According to the WWF, the commercial application of genetically modified trees will mark a move toward greater intensification of plantations. Shorter, more intensive rotations of tree crops will place greater demands on soil nutrients and available ground water, and may ultimately threaten the long-term sustainability of plantation lands, especially in the tropics.

The WWF said the risks of the "tree technology" include:

- The possible instability of an introduced gene which may have unintended side effects on the tree and forest ecosystem.

- The engineering of trees with a competitive advantage, which could create super-weeds.

- Trees engineered for sterility

would support for less biodiversity.

- Trees engineered for pest resistance and herbicide tolerance may have unintended impacts on non-target species.

The WWF has called for a global moratorium on the commercial release of genetically altered tree species and strengthen regulations for field-testing to examine its long-term environmental impact.

As the threat posed by the tree plantation investment is growing each day, so grows the rage in the hearts of every tribal Filipino affected.

Nag-aniguna ko sa bugla ko kay namin-an ko sa bugla ko ha nakakoon (I can't afford to lose our land because I know it is from here that we live and get our food). Datu Man-akuban of the Banwaon tribe said.

Datu Man-akuban added that it is better for them to die fighting to preserve the land than see it polluted and wasted, and eventually lead to the death of the tribe.

DUGONGS:

Victims of pollution and massive hunting

BY FERDINAND O. ZUASOLA
Mati, Davao Oriental

DUGONGS, locally known as *dugong*, can no longer be found in the Pujada Bay, the herbivorous marine mammal's sanctuary here.

"The environment is no longer conducive to their survival," says Alfeo Piloton, chief of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources here.

David Pajarilaga, coordinator of the coastal environment program of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources here, said massive hunting by local fishermen has led to its extinction in the Pujada Bay, a 21,000-hectare protected seascape and landscape.

"Dugong meat tastes very much like that of a cow," Pajarilaga said.

It sells at P50 to P100 a kilo at the wet market here.

Dugong catching and slaughtering is rampant in Barangays Lawigan, Mamali and Bad-as.

But Piloton also blames the heavy pollution in the Pujada Bay. The protected bay has become a dump site of Mati's garbage.

Dugong is one of only four living members of the mammalian order of sea cows, *sirenia*, and

the only remaining member of the family *Dugongidae*.

The other sirenians are *trichechus manatus* (the West Indian manatee), *trichechus inunguis* (the Amazonian manatee) and *trichechus senegalensis* (the West African manatee).

Jose Ma. Lorenzo Tan, author of the book "A Field Guide to Whales and Dolphins in the Philippines," the average adult dugong measures 2.4 to 2.7 meters in length and can weigh from 230 to 360 kilos.

Dugongs feed on seagrass and much of its normal day is spent grazing.

Tan said "only a very small proportion of the world's dugong stocks are found in Philippine waters. Many old records seem to indicate that they used to abound all throughout the archipelago. Today, a sizeable population is known to be present only in Palawan."

DENR's Pajarilaga said the penalty for dugong catching and slaughtering should be increased "to stop the killing."

Catching and slaughtering of the endangered sea cows are punishable by only six months of imprisonment and a P1,000 to P2,000 fine, he said.

A number of dugongs were recently sighted in nearby Mayo Bay. But like in Pujada Bay, the mammals face extinction as many fishers there continue to hunt them.



DUGONGS, or sea cows, are facing extinction in the Pujada Bay

Potentials of the FOOD & BEVERAGE Industry unleashed!

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16-19 AUGUST 2001 • Megatrade Halls • SM Megamall, Bldg. B

DAY 1 (AUGUST 16, 2001)

10:00-12:00 **Technical Session by SWSA/SCS**
2:00-4:00 **Technical Session by QHQ**
4:00-6:00 **Technical Session by Ingersoll-Rand**

Seminar Room A
10:30-12:00 **Environmental Management**
The Environmental Impact of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room B
10:30-12:00 **Food Safety and Quality**
The Food Safety and Quality of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room C
10:30-12:00 **Food Processing**
The Food Processing of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room D
10:30-12:00 **Food Packaging**
The Food Packaging of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room E
10:30-12:00 **Food Distribution**
The Food Distribution of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room F
10:30-12:00 **Food Retailing**
The Food Retailing of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room G
10:30-12:00 **Food Marketing**
The Food Marketing of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room H
10:30-12:00 **Food Research and Development**
The Food Research and Development of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room I
10:30-12:00 **Food Innovation**
The Food Innovation of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room J
10:30-12:00 **Food Entrepreneurship**
The Food Entrepreneurship of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room K
10:30-12:00 **Food Investment**
The Food Investment of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room L
10:30-12:00 **Food Financing**
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Seminar Room M
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Seminar Room N
10:30-12:00 **Food Legal**
The Food Legal of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room O
10:30-12:00 **Food Tax**
The Food Tax of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room P
10:30-12:00 **Food Accounting**
The Food Accounting of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room Q
10:30-12:00 **Food Auditing**
The Food Auditing of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room R
10:30-12:00 **Food Consulting**
The Food Consulting of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room S
10:30-12:00 **Food Training**
The Food Training of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room T
10:30-12:00 **Food Certification**
The Food Certification of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room U
10:30-12:00 **Food Accreditation**
The Food Accreditation of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room V
10:30-12:00 **Food Recognition**
The Food Recognition of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room W
10:30-12:00 **Food Registration**
The Food Registration of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room X
10:30-12:00 **Food Intellectual Property**
The Food Intellectual Property of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room Y
10:30-12:00 **Food Trademark**
The Food Trademark of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room Z
10:30-12:00 **Food Copyright**
The Food Copyright of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room AA
10:30-12:00 **Food Patent**
The Food Patent of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room AB
10:30-12:00 **Food Trade Secret**
The Food Trade Secret of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room AC
10:30-12:00 **Food Confidentiality**
The Food Confidentiality of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room AD
10:30-12:00 **Food Non-Disclosure**
The Food Non-Disclosure of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room AE
10:30-12:00 **Food Privacy**
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Seminar Room AG
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Seminar Room AH
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Seminar Room AI
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Seminar Room AJ
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Seminar Room AL
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The Food Sincerity of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room AP
10:30-12:00 **Food Trustworthiness**
The Food Trustworthiness of the Food and Beverage Industry (day 1)

Seminar Room AQ
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Seminar Room DZ
10:30-12:00



Nene to GMA: Testify

(From page A1)

in place and the President made no attempt to have them recalled, Pimentel said. Ms. Macapagal's statement that she knew who might have been involved was "a very good admission that something did happen."

"Although technically we can't summon her since she is a sitting President, we can ask her to submit a written deposition or (to testify via) closed-circuit camera," Pimentel said.

He also said that the opposition was hoping that Rodrigo would make a sworn statement detailing her accusations "to serve as the basis of a Senate investigation."

The possible investigation by the Senate blue ribbon committee will also include Estrada cronies Jaime Dichaves, who is suspected of owning the two companies involved in the controversy, Philippine Communication Clearinghouse Inc. and APC Wireless Interface Network Inc.

Ombudsman Amiano Desierto said Rodrigo would be asked to explain her allegations in the government's separate probe.

But the Ombudsman's investigation

will be limited to determining whether public officials—including senators, congressmen and heads of government agencies—were involved in the alleged bribery scandal, Desierto said in an interview yesterday.

"Definitely there will be no criminal investigation of Arroyo at this point," unless it is established that public officials were involved, he said.

Desierto said he would investigate Arroyo only if he found evidence that the President's husband, as a private citizen, worked in cahoots with government officials to commit a crime.

If investigators find evidence of graft and corruption, Desierto will immediately order the Ombudsman Fact-finding and Investigation Bureau to start a formal inquiry.

Filling in blanks

Following the President's disclosure on Friday that she had conducted an internal investigation and knew the identities of the people involved in the controversy, Pimentel jumped on her statement as an admission that the matter was worth probing further.

"This saves us a lot of trouble to prove that something happened. What

we'll do would be like an examination of filling in the blanks," he said.

Desierto similarly said he ordered the investigation on the assumption that the President had unearthed irregularities.

"I ordered the inquiry considering that the President is the head of the executive branch whose agencies or officials may have been involved in the alleged irregularity," he said.

Pimentel, for his part, said the Senate would have to investigate the matter to determine if bribe money did come into the picture.

"If money changed hands to get the veto reconsidered, then obviously, there is a reason to investigate," he said.

The militant group Bayan also called on the President to make public the results of her investigation.

Pimentel speculated that the President's decision to refer the matter to the Ombudsman could be meant to "convince the senators not to pursue their investigation anymore."

"But I want to assure the people that I will not file a resolution (for a Senate investigation) unless I have the evidence," Pimentel told reporters at

a weekly press forum at the Sulo Hotel in Quezon City.

"I don't want to start unless we have a stronger basis for the investigation," he said.

He repeated that he had not even spoken with Rodrigo yet.

Jurisdiction

The Ombudsman reiterated that investigating Arroyo does not fall under his jurisdiction because the First Gentleman is a "private citizen."

Pimentel said the Ombudsman could investigate the matter even if Arroyo is not a public official because there might be other government officials involved.

Desierto agreed in a separate interview.

"If there were government officials involved in the alleged illegal transaction, then my office has the jurisdiction to investigate them... and Mike Arroyo," he said.

Desierto clarified that he was aware that there is a law that penalizes husbands or wives or relatives of government officials for abusing their ties for personal gains.

"But that law authorizes the Ombudsman to investigate only if the pri-

vate citizen conspired with a public official to carry out the transaction," he said.

He said Ombudsman investigators would first examine the "data" or "evidence" they have gathered so far. "But these data consist of newspaper clippings. We will still wait for the documents and affidavits to be turned over by the Office of the President," Desierto stressed.

Rumors or facts?

After text messages spread earlier this month alleging that Arroyo accepted P41-50 million to purportedly persuade his wife to recall a telecom franchise bill veto, the First Gentleman went on radio to deny the accusation.

He said that he had heard that a resigned Palace secretary had received money in exchange for promising that the veto would be rescinded.

Not long afterward, an angry Rodrigo, the daughter of late Sen. Francisco "Soc" Rodrigo, went on radio herself and said Arroyo was using her as a "scapegoat" because he had taken a bribe but had failed to deliver the goods.

It later turned out that several people, including a congressman, had lobbied for the reconsideration of the vetoes of the bills granting franchises to PCCI and APC Wireless to set up a telecommunications clearinghouse and a new nationwide telecom system.

Only Congress, however, can override an executive veto.

Both companies are owned by Pacifico Marcelo, an Estrada appointee to the board of the sequestered Philcomsat.

Ownership issue

The ownership issue is important because if Dichaves turns out to be the actual owner of the firms, the discov-

ery would lend credence to Rodrigo's claim that Arroyo and three associates accepted money from a Dichaves-owned company.

Through their lawyers, the companies have denied that any of their owners "are fronting for anybody," after the transportation and communication secretary said that he suspected that Marcelo was the front man of Dichaves, a close friend of ousted President Joseph Estrada.

Marcelo, a former consultant of a telecom trading company owned by Dichaves, was purportedly the latter's nominee to the Philcomsat board under the Estrada administration.

Dichaves is not among the listed incorporators of PCCI and APC Wireless.

PCCI and APC Wireless have categorically denied bribing anyone in the course of seeking to have the vetoes reconsidered. They have also denied doing anything illegal, and have said that they respect the President's decision to keep the vetoes in place.

How about Sotto?

Asked whether opposition Sen. Vicente Sotto—whose committee reviewed and granted the franchise to PCCI—would also be asked to explain what he knew about the owners, Pimentel said that this was unlikely.

Sotto chaired the Senate public services committee in the 11th Senate. He recently came out with a press release defending the viability of the franchise request.

"I don't know what is the basis to investigate him," Pimentel said.

But told about Senate President Franklin Drilon's observation that it was up to Sotto to determine whether PCCI's stockholders were dummies of Dichaves, Pimentel said: "Maybe, that is one detail we should know."

With a report from Delfin Mallari

'My spirit will never be broken by a Mike Arroyo'

(From page A1)

Arroyo, ang binigay kong dahilan sa aking official letter of resignation ay nais kong alagaan ang aking anak na babae na malapit nang magdalaga, lnasahan kong ako ay hisan sa Malacanaang nang tahimik at walang gulo.

Ngunit pinatulan ni Ginoong Arroyo ang mga text messages na lumabas ipos ng pagbibitiw ko. Wala akong kinalaman sa text messages na ito na nagkasabing ako ay nagbitiw dahil hindi ko masikrura ang pangungarap ko ni Mike Arroyo.

Noong July 17, 2001, nakapanayam ninyo si Ginoong Arroyo sa inyong istasyon ng dzMM at sinabi niya na siya ay nagagalak at nabigyan siya ng pagkakataon na sagutin ang text messages na kumakalat malapog akong nagbitiw.

Telecom bill

Ibinintang niya sa akin na ako ang tumanggap ng pera—at hindi sila—tungkol sa isang telecommunications bill.

Wala sana akong balak utawalar sa

publiko ang tumay na dahilan sa aking pagbibitiw, ngunit dahil sa kaniyang interview sa inyong istasyon, napaguisipan kong panahon na para isiwat ko ang katotohanan.

Ako ay nagbitiw ng maraman ko na ako ay ginawa na pala nilang sangkalan sa kanilang mga kapakanan sa ibat sa telecommunication franchise deal. Napagalaman ko na ang mga taong kasangkot sa deal na ito ay sina Ginoong Mike Arroyo, at talo pa. Dalawa rito ay nagtatrabaho sa palasyo, at isa ay business partner ni Ginoong Arroyo.

Napagalaman ko rin na malaking balaga ng pera ang tinanggap nila. Ngunit ang Pangulo ay walang tangka na ipawalang bisa ang pag-veto niya, kaya't nangailangan ng sangkalan ang mga tumanggap ng pera. Hindi, kahit kailan, ako papayag na gawin nilang sangkalan. Kaya ako nagbitiw.

Bilang correspondence secretary, ako ay walang pakikilahok sa mga bagay tungkol sa mga franchise bill.

Malou Nuñez

Ang kaisa-isa kong ginawa ay sinamahan ko si Ms. Malou Nuñez sa tanggapan ni Secretary Gabriel Claudio

ng PLO dahil meron daw siyang sadya dito. Nais pala ni Ms. Nuñez na alam ang status of the request of Congress to have the vetoed franchise bill recalled.

Dahil ang daloy ng papel sa Malacanaang ay computerized, kahit sino ay maaaring beripikahan na ang original papers for the franchise ay hindi dumana sa kaniyang ko.

Madalas banggitin ni Pangulong Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo na ako ay isa sa pinakamatatag na mga kaibigan. Kami ay magkalahad mula saong grade school hanggang high school.

Ang aming mga arwa na sina dating Pangulong Diosdado Macapagal at dating Senador Francisco Soc Rodrigo ay hindi lamang magkapatidong ngunit malapit na magkabaigang at magkasangga sa paglaban kay Ferdinand Marcos.

Sa palagay ko, ito ang dahilan kung bakit siya ako inanyayahan maging correspondence secretary niya. Upang mayroon siyang kaibigan sa Malacanaang.

Walang kispamatang dinunigan ni Ginoong Mike Arroyo ang aming

pangalan at dangal. Ginawa niya ito nang wala akong kalaban-laban.

Sisrain niya ang pagkakaibigan namin ng kaniyang kabiyak nang walang pakatandang. Sa halip na magpasalamat na umalis ako ng palasyo nang malahimik, ako ay pinaghihinaan niya ag masamang gawa.

Cautioned

Some people have cautioned me against responding to the interview statements of Mike Arroyo, and taking on forces more powerful than myself. But I would not be my father's daughter if I suffered Mr. Arroyo's accusations in silence.

My father, Soc Rodrigo, was imprisoned four times by President Ferdinand Marcos. My father's spirit was never broken. Mine will never be broken by a Mike Arroyo.

This statement will be my first and only response to media. I am referring the matter to my lawyers for possible legal recourse against Mike Arroyo. Any future statements will have to be made by legal counsel.

Magaadong umaga nila Cito Salazar.

Boy's mom was 'labandera' named Gloria

(From page A1)

River

Jayson, a fifth-grade student of St. Vincent School, wants to complete his schooling, and he is banking on the President's offer to help him do that.

But Jayson's grandmother Anacleto Banogan, 67, is fearful that the boy would turn out like Mang Pandoy, another Payatas resident whom then President Fidel Ramos brought to prominence to give face to his anti-poverty program.

Years after the hoopla that started in 1992, Pandoy—Felipe Natano in real life—remains mired in poverty.

"Those poor boys should not have been made to hope," said the grandmother, who had taken care of Jayson since his parents died.

Looking for Pandoy

But the President is bent on keeping her word.

Speaking over ANC Channel 21 yesterday morning, she reiterated that a good future was awaiting Jayson and the two other boys, Jomar Pabalan, 10, and Erwin Dolera, 8, whose wishes represented her goals of jobs, education, housing and food for Filipinos.

"Not only that," she said, "I have asked my people to look for Mang Pandoy so that we can also help him."

The President aired her plan for Pandoy when asked if the three boys would not suffer his fate.

She promised that the boys would get their wishes—a permanent job for

Jomar's father, a college education for Jayson, and land for Erwin's family.

Skeptics had predicted that the boys would go the way of Pandoy.

"I don't think so," the President said yesterday. "Because these three kids, we know their history. They are under the care of Kadumay, (a non-government organization), which also takes care of 23 families."

She said the Department of Social Welfare and Development was coordinating with Kadumay to extend assistance to those 23 families, including the three boys.

The President did not say what help she would give Pandoy, who had come to symbolize the impoverished Filipino since he appeared in the 1992 debate among presidential candidates and offered to have himself shot for a fee so his family would have something to live on.

When Ramos became president, Pandoy was given a series of good breaks, including his own TV show "Pandayan ni Mang Pandoy." He received a monthly stipend as consultant of then Speaker Jose de Venecia as well as financial assistance to start a small business.

But sometime in October 2000, when the INQUIRER visited him, the 55-year-old was still in dire straits. He had returned to his three-by-five-meter shack along the La Mesa Dam in Payatas.

Pandoy makes P50 a day selling brushes, mops and other household cleaning items in Payatas and the nearby

town of Rodriguez in Rizal.

Scholarships

Jayson, Jomar and Erwin have become celebrities since they appeared with the President at the opening of the 12th Congress last Monday.

"They're lucky, they now have a bright future ahead of them," a neighbor said.

The boys have received at least three scholarship offers so far—from the Ateneo de Manila University, AMA Computer College and a cookie company.

Jayson, who dreams of becoming an architect, has yet to choose from among the offers. He wants to share these with the other children who had also written their wishes on paper that they later fashioned into boats.

After reading about the boys' paper boats in an INQUIRER report, the President sent for them. DSWD workers found Jayson and Jomar at Phase 2 of Lupang Pangako in Payatas, and Erwin, at Erap City in Montalban, Rizal.

Anacleto Banogan said it took the workers four visits to convince his relatives that it was no joke. She said they wondered why the President would send for a kid like him.

"We were afraid they would just use him for politics," the grandmother said. "That's why we hope the President would keep her promises."

Jayson himself was both overwhelmed and apprehensive.

Although wary, the grandmother agreed to let Jayson go. On July 22, the

day before she delivered her first major policy speech, the President met Jayson at a rehearsal at the Batasan Pambansa.

Jayson said the President shook his hand and gave him words of encouragement.

Letters

Jayson said his greatest wish was to have his family back, but that he knew not even the President could grant it.

In a letter he wrote last July 2, Jayson told his parents: "Mother and Father, thanks for taking care of me since I was a baby. You gave me food, shelter, clothes, love and education. You taught me how to read, write and many more. But you died in a big tragedy. Now I'm all by myself."

This was one of many letters the boy has written. In one, he asked his parents where they were. In another, he asked God why He took away his family so early. In still another, he listed his wishes.

One of these wish lists he folded into a paper boat that he set to float on the Pasig River.

There were 22 other paper boats made by Payatas children, who hoped that these would reach Malacanaang. The boats never got near the Palace, but the President got the message.

Jayson will mark his 11th birthday on Aug. 14. He is not keen on any gift. But he said he would be happy to be assured that he would not go the way of Mang Pandoy.

(From page A1)

Center. If the results are good, his family will bring him on a vacation to the United States.

Since being diagnosed with a tumor in October last year, he has quit school and undergone chemotherapy and radiation therapy at the same hospital. So far, the treatment has produced positive results.

Apart from Moy, 15 children under the care of the ABS-CBN Bantay-Bata Foundation have also been invited to the JAL inaugural.

"We have some children who have dreams, which probably may not come true because of personal circumstances and children who may not be able to fly in their lifetime. This will be a wonderful chance for them to see the aircraft," Pascual said.

Magician's show

On Thursday, Moy and the other kids will be treated to a brief magician's show, before being escorted to the 416-seater plane for a 15-minute tour.

Then they will be escorted back to the boarding gate so the airline crew can prepare for the flight back to Narita.

From the gate, they will have a ring-side view of the plane as it takes off around 9:15 a.m. But that's not the end of it: They will be treated to more song and dance in a makeshift "kiddie corner" at the gate.

The "Disney" plane is part of a pro-

motional campaign for Tokyo Disney Sea, Disney's newest theme park, which will open in September, Pascual said.

Both JAL and Walt Disney have decided to jointly promote the theme park in commemoration of JAL's 50th anniversary and Disney's 100th anniversary.

Kind people

More than a week ago, airport officials granted Moy's request for a tour of Nasa Terminals 1 and 2, a rare privilege for a kid his age.

He was also taken around the hangar of Philippine Airlines and received an offer to be flown aboard a training plane for free from a government-owned flying school after the INQUIRER published the feature on him.

"I wanted to become a pilot someday, so I wanted to see the facilities here," said the boy, the 12th of 13 children, who idolizes his eldest brother, now a serviceman in the US Air Force.

On the day the INQUIRER report came out, a pilot offered to fly him for free aboard a five-seat plane for an hour sometime in August.

If the pilot follows through on his offer, it will be Moy's first plane ride.

A day later, managers of Lufthansa Technik AG took him on a tour inside the company's hangar in Nasa and allowed him to enter the cockpit of a PAL plane, sit in the pilot's seat and hold the joystick. They even taught him the basics of flying.

Move over, homemaker

(From page A1)

the words "home computer" take on new meaning, it might be possible.

That future is on display now at an IBM Corp. lab, where researchers are testing new technology in a fully furnished living room, kitchen and garage.

In the kitchen, a screen on the refrigerator tells what's inside—without opening the door. Digital stoves and microwaves cook automatically, following recipes downloaded from the Internet.

Set two prescription bottles on the bathroom counter, and a computer-activated voice announces whether the medications are an unsafe mix. In the living room, a mini, mobile wireless touch screen replaces remote controls.

Servers that are built into the decor will allow wireless devices, appliances, thermostats, security systems and computers to be networked, or "talk" with one another from anywhere.

Parents could monitor the baby sitter anywhere on a secure Internet site. The thermostat could be linked to a weather website, firing up the furnace if the forecast calls for snow. And the digital peek into the fridge—that too, could be done away from home.

"Everything, absolutely everything is connected," Bill Bodin, an IBM researcher, says while showing off the lab. For now, the "smart house" is home to constantly evolving ideas.

But as IBM's Michael Rhodin tells it, the technology being developed and tested at the Austin lab is the next big thing.

2 years away

It could be only two years away. "It's almost a threshold of where the computer is going to change completely," says Rhodin, vice president of

the Pervasive Computing Division's development department. "People need to feel connected 24 hours a day."

That means that the next era of home computing will be integrating computing in the home, "making technology real for people," Rhodin says.

IBM, based in Armonk, New York, wants to create a stable infrastructure and simplify wireless technology. "That's the kind of stuff that IBM is known for," Rhodin says.

The payoff could be huge.

Like most personal computer companies, IBM has seen its PC sales and market share decline. According to market research firm Gartner Dataquest, IBM's shipment of PCs in the United States dropped 10.7 percent in the second quarter. Worldwide shipments fell 6.5 percent.

Wireless and network technology has endless consumer possibilities. Just this week, a Coke machine complete with Internet access and a movie-ticket dispenser was shipped out of the lab.

But constant connection also "raises a lot of interesting questions," Rhodin acknowledges. "There are going to be a lot of interesting debates over the issue of privacy."

Privacy is something businesses, consumers and government should carefully discuss, says Philip Doty, an associate professor at the University of Texas who studies technology and privacy.

"This kind of scrutiny of an individual or a family might be extremely oppressive," he explains.

For example, businesses can use data to customize advertising or offer discounts if consumers agree to allow personal information to be accessed by companies, Doty says. "That tends to commoditize privacy." AP

(From page A1)

Investigated and punished."

Again he advised Ms. Macapagal to take breakfast in stride.

"The President should bear criticisms because she is the one sitting there. If she cannot take it, she should leave," he said.

He also said the opposition was not particularly against the President's plans as presented, but that it just found these too big given the limited funds.

No bitterness

At the Quezon City forum, Pimentel said the ruling People Power Coalition treated him shabbily despite his being a loyal party man during the last elections.

"But there is no bitterness whatsoever in my heart. I relish my role with the opposition," he declared, adding that he had been on the opposite side since the Marcos dictatorship.

Still, he listed his grievances.

"The coalition did not find me a worthy member of the PPC despite me, a Senate president, having held the microphone for the President during her inauguration," Pimentel said.

He pointed out that he supported the PPC's 13-0 campaign in the senatorial race, and that he did not enter into any *sub rosa* deal with the opposition in exchange for support for his son's candidacy as mayor of Cagayan de Oro City.

"Yet when the time came (for choosing the Senate leadership), they did not even consider me for possible reelection (as Senate president)," he said.

Franklin Drilon was elected Senate president over Pimentel by a vote of 13 to 11.

Pimentel also said the PPC did invite him to a party caucus in Malacanaang. But this was when he was out of the country and therefore unable to attend, he noted.

No gridlock

For all that, Pimentel said there would be no political gridlock in the Senate because he and his colleagues were determined to be "responsible" fiscalizers.

Earlier reports said the opposition was set to launch a "Guns of August" political offensive to expose the anomalies in and shortcomings of the administration.

"The people need not worry about the threat of investigations. It will not hamper our work in terms of legislation. The minority in the Senate will be a responsible opposition group," Pimentel said.

"We will not object just for the sake of objection," he added.

Pimentel observed that the Senate leadership was trying to raid the ranks of the minority because "the majority is sitting on the sharp edge of a bayonet."

He said the majority was luring the opposition with committee chairman-

ships because of the danger of another Senate leadership turnover.

"But we are a close-knit opposition group. We are avoiding the possibility of getting a crack in our ranks," he said.

Pimentel said Sen. Rodolfo Biazon was offered the chairmanship of the defense committee if he went over to the majority but that he refused.

Ateneo struggles anew, nips Adamson, 62-61

Army shocks Spring

ARMY pulled off a stirring reversal in the Spiceland-NBC Danny Espiritu Cup basketball tournament Thursday by beating Spring Cooking Oil in overtime, 110-100, at the Makati Coliseum.

The Armymen outgunned Spring, 28-18, in the extra period after tying the count at 82 in regulation to deal the latter its first loss in four games in the tourney sponsored by Pisong Asin, Spring Margarine, Tanduay Distillers, Mobilene, Red Bull, SMB, Ginebra San Miguel, Purefoods, Pop Cola and Shell and supported by Milo.

Konica (Nueva) crushed Mighty Tobacco, 99-84, to share the lead with Spring while PMI nosed out MMC-Rexona, 83-81, in the other games.



ATENEJO team captain Paul Tan Chi (7) prepares to grab the ball as teammate Eric Yao (15) and Adamson's Kim Gandarosa lose footing during their UAAP men's basketball game yesterday. The Eagles won, 62-61.

GAMES TODAY (Loyola Gym)
2 p.m.—UST vs UE (Srs)
4 p.m.—La Salle vs UP (Srs)

BY DENNIS U. EROA

VETERAN Paul Tan Chi and rookie sensation Lewis Tenorio saved the day for Ateneo as the Blue Eagles nipped the Adamson Falcons, 62-61, in the UAAP basketball championship yesterday at the Loyola Gym.

Tan Chi, now on his fifth and final year for the Blue Eagles, buried a 12-footer, while the slippery Tenorio caught Adamson postguard Ramil Rey Tagupa flatfooted with a crossover, before dropping a pass to Enrico Villanueva, who gave Ateneo a 60-57 cushion, 1:08 remaining.

While the result scared Ateneo no end, it somehow prolonged Adamson's agony as the Falcons fell to their 18th straight setback, counting their 0-14 record last year.

In the other seniors game, red-hot Leo Avenida provided the spark as FEU turned back NU, 83-68, to create a two-way tie for the lead.

The 6-foot 2 former rookie of the year hardly showed the ill-effects of a slight fever as he posted 31 points, eight rebounds and five steals to power the Tamaraws to their third win in four games, same card of the Ateneo Blue Eagles.

In the lone juniors' tussle, titlists Ateneo Blue Eaglets routed the Adamson Baby Falcons, 83-41, for their third straight victory. The Baby Falcons dropped to 3-1.

SCORES:
ATENEJO 62—Ston 17, Villanueva 16, Alvarez 9, Tan Chi 6, Quimpo 3, Tenorio 3, Elmin 3, Foranier 3, Bugla 2, Yao 0.
ADAMSON 61—Abadilla 14, Manacay 12, Tagupa 9, Tajonera 8, Yong 6, Rolan 4, Ferrer 2, Mangalabalan 2, Capali 2, Taylor 2, Garcia 0.
Quarters: 20-13, 27-21, 44-35, 62-61

SR Pak co-leader; Delasin 2 down

VIENNA, Ohio—Se Ri Pak, Marlene McGuire and Maggie Will shot 5-under-par 67s on Friday to share the first-round lead in the Giant Eagle LPGA Classic.

Defending champion Dorothy Delasin, whose victory last year over Pat Hurst on the second playoff hole made her the LPGA's youngest winner in 25 years, had a 69.

Pak, who capped her breakthrough rookie season with a victory in the 1998 tournament, played bogey-free golf while stamping herself as the clear-cut favorite in a field that includes only eight of the top 25 players on the money list.

Leading money-winner Annika Sorenstam and No. 2 Karrie Webb both skipped the tournament to prepare for Monday night's made-for-TV match with Tiger Woods and David Duval.

Pak, who is third on the money list and has already won three times this year, birdied three of the first four holes but battled an erratic driver the rest of the way. Even when she did overcome her problems off the tee, she twice missed birdie putts inside 3 meters (10 feet) and left an uphill 4.5-meter (15-foot) putt for birdie on the lip on her last hole.

Pak is from South Korea but has played as if she grew up in the Buckeye state, winning the tour stop in Toledo three of the last four years and placing first, ninth and third in her three previous appearances in the Giant Eagle. AP

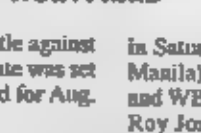
Holyfield fight moved as Ruiz injures neck

BEIJING — China, promoter Don King likes to say, has waited 5,000 years for a heavyweight championship bout. Now it'll have to wait a little longer: "The Quiet Man" is hurtling.



Friday night at a news conference. "I definitely want to apologize to the people of China. No one is more disappointed than myself." AP

China's first heavyweight title fight was postponed Friday after John Ruiz injured his neck during training to defend his WBA title against Evander Holyfield. No new date was set for the bout that was scheduled for Aug. 5 in Beijing.



Gonzalez underdog LOS ANGELES —Julio Gonzalez likes the underdog. It's a good thing, because that's the position he'll be in Saturday night (Sunday morning in Manila) when he challenges WBC, IBF and WBA light heavyweight champion Roy Jones Jr. at Staples Center.

Armstrong scores 4th stage victory

SAINT-AMAND-MONTROND, France — Many people consider the Tour de France one of the world's toughest sports events due to the steep mountain climbs, the long stages in hot weather and the accumulation of fatigue over three weeks of intense racing.



Watching Lance Armstrong win Friday's individual time-trial, it was hard to believe he had been competing in the same grueling event. With a freshness that surprised even himself, he pounded his way to a fourth stage victory, further tightening his grip on Tour title No. 3.

"I've never felt this good in a time-trial," the Texan said. "I had great legs. The course was perfect."

Defying temperatures of 30 degrees Celsius (86 degrees Fahrenheit) and humid conditions, he completed the 61 kilometer (37.88-mile) stretch from Montlucon to this town in central France in 1 hour, 14 minutes, 16 seconds. He was a whopping 1:24 faster than second-place Spaniard Igor Gonzalez Galdeano. AP

Cabalinan karting favorite

JEFF Cabalinan has been installed chief favorite in the sixth leg of the Shell Super Karting Championships today at the Butangas Racing Circuit in Rosario, Batangas.

Cabalinan's co-favorites are Lee Bumgarner, Allan Uy, Mandy Boga, Victor Yap, Eduardo Pesa, Tyson Sy and Lorenzo Rijk, who are all hoping to keep the lead in their respective categories.

Cabalinan tries to redeem himself from last month's disappointing finish and extend his lead in the Formula Super A category, centerpiece event in this annual series organized by the Carmona Circuit Phils. In cooperation with Shell Helix, Shell Velocity and Shell Citibank Mastercard.

Cabalinan, who finished only fourth in the fifth leg held at the Carmona Racing Circuit in Cavite last June 10, is nursing a 42-point lead over multi-titled Pepo Marave, 195-153.

Also in contention in this eight-part series also sponsored by March box/Hot Wheels, Coca-Cola, Bridgestone, Denvel's Enterprises, Eastway Racing and Nokia is Manuel Mayo with 124 points. Cebu-based Jess Garcia and Mon Tanjano are fourth and fifth with 118 and 108 points, respectively.

Bumgarner has a five-leg aggregate of 153 points, only four points ahead of Francisco, Barretto and Neuhof are also within striking distance with 144 and 140 points, respectively.

RP boatmen try luck in US

A PHILIPPINE Marine Corps-Dragon Waves Marina team with a full year of preparations behind it leaves today for Philadelphia, eager to make waves in the world's biggest and most prestigious dragon boat race.



Easily one of the most successful in the country, the 50-member squad tests its mettle in the 4th World Dragon Boat Racing Championship that gathers 20 crack entries from all over the world in the chilly waters of Fairmount Park, Philadelphia from Aug. 1 to 5.

The team, supported by Pharmaton vitamins and managed by Maj. Ray Lawag of the Philippine Marines, is already bound to break new grounds as the first from the country to compete in the world championships. But its members have no intention of stopping there.

RP hopefuls during training before they embarked for the US yesterday.

The Philippine Marine Corps is coming off a major victory in the 5th Northern California Dragon Boat Championship held last year in Foster city, Ryan Park, California. It has also ruled tournaments with international casts in Australia, Canada and Thailand.

Training director of the team is Capt. Ronaldo Reario.

The Marines team is composed of Orlando Ordonia, Noel Pees, Reynaldo Camhang, Joel Medequiano, Marion Ormos, Donathias Dulla, Lino Coling, Remy Castro, Terry Dandan, Teodoro Salinas, Alfredo Alegado Jr., James Reser, Rocio Espinoza, Yannel Ursua, Salvador Daniel, David Alave, Santiago Sam, Luro Baldeconza, Niel Calogiong, Jose Patricia, Federico Astecano, Eduardo Arguelles, Romel Gavilanes, Romar Moria, Dindo Fencio, Joel Angat, Lazar Saucha, Manuelito Padua, Henry Blas, Sany Boy Tagalog and Jeffrey Gonzales.

The Dragon Waves Marina members aside from Puno are Vachell de Alben, Jocelyn Sison, Marsha Salcor, Erisda Pogala, Joanna Franzgelli, Mihama Aguan, Ellen Nunez, Adeli dela Pena, Julie Amos, Charisse Sol and Michelle Henares.

JB Hernandez fan no more

ADD businessman Theodore Lagupian to the list of JB Hernandez fans who have started to doubt their idol ever since he lost atop Silver Story recently.



Edwin Villanueva

Lagupian, from Amparo Subdivision in Quezon City, sent us a short but very interesting e-mail as he reacted on that "memorable" debacle Silver Story suffered on July 1 at Santa Ana.

Let me share that mail to all our fellow karettas:

Dear Edwin,
I'm one of those who were terribly upset when Silver Story lost to Sonata on July 1 at the Santa Ana Park.

Imagine ang dami namang pwedeng matalo nang araw na yun at Silver Story pa. That loss was really terrible and highly questionable at the same time.

I was at the Regalado OTB station when that happened and all the bettors there could only shake their heads in disappointment.

Since that day, I've begun to have second thoughts on betting JB Hernandez rides in the future. Idol ko pa naman sya because he reminds me of another Jesus Guce or Eduardo Domingo Jr. is the making.

Exactly a week after that, Silver Story won the Horseman's Cup to sweep the Triple Crown. Kahinahinala yata na naka-recover agad yung kabayo?

When Silver Story lost, one thing raced in my mind na malayang tama ang sabi nila na ang hiniye na ang may-ari once na tunakbo na ang kabayo. They can do all the things they wanted once the horse gets into action.

Edwin, I've read your column on July 15 and you were right in saying that the suspension Hernandez got atop Silver Story for foul riding in the Horseman's Cup should serve him a lesson. Oh yes, alam ko rin na bago pa man yan ay nasupindi rin yan for "discourteous act."

Also, I agree with you when you said that Silver Story's sweep will forever be tainted by that setback to Sonata and suspension of Hernandez.

I hope JB Hernandez changes once he rides again. Baka magitwala ako uli sa kanya.

Thanks a lot Edwin and more power to your widely-followed One Winner.

THEODORE H. LAGUIPAN
Amparo Subd., Quezon City

Philracom moves to lick 'surra'

IN an effort to address the threat of a deadly parasitic horse disease more popularly known as surra, the Philippine Racing Commission and the Animal Health Division of the Bureau of Animal Industry recently conducted a multi-sectoral symposium on the possible treatment and control of the said ailment at the Philippine Racing Club.

Philracom has announced that it will come up with a set of guidelines to provide an accurate and prompt diagnosis of the existence of the parasitic disease among the current active population of race horses at the two race clubs.

Fatal outbreaks of surra, or what is commonly known in the country as the bayawak disease, have been reported to some parts of the Mindanao region, Negros Occidental and the Quezon Province, resulting in numerous deaths to horses, carabaos and other draft animals.

Also present during the well-attended multi-sectoral forum were Dr Victor C. Atienza, DVM, chief of the Animal Health Division of the BAI, Philracom executive director Juan P. Lozano and Philracom deputy executive director and director for racing, Dr Romeo Baencamino, DVM.

"Aware of the possible debilitating effect of this disease to our local horse racing industry, the Philracom, through the generous assistance of the BAI, has deemed it only timely and proper that we take up positive action on this issue before the situation goes out of hand," said Philracom chair Andrew A. Sanchez.

Just recently, the BAI has confirmed reports of Surra infection in some parts of the province of Batangas, the acknowledged horse breeding center in the country where most of the major horse breeding farms are located.

As a first step to deal with the possible outbreak of surra, the

An equine disease epidemic, similar to the one that occurred in November 1997 at the two operational racing venues resulting from an equine influenza virus, could have a devastating effect on the booming industry which contributes close to P1 billion annually in direct taxes to the government.

RACING TIPS AT SANTA ANA BY MR. 999

Race 1—1 Gutmoore/Mr. Lucas 2. Baby My Beloved 3. Ocean Magic 4. Hurry Prince 5. Terific
Race 2—1 El Concor 2. Venus 3. Battle Tested 4. Gold and Dollar
Race 3—1. Take Chances 2. King Cobra 3. Headliner 4. Flash Back 5. D. Barrister
Race 4—1 Wind Blown 2. Sonata 3. Hyperbird 4. Family Task
Race 5—1. Snake Dancer 2. Southern Gent 3. She's So Sure 4. Lucky Gambit 5. Touch of Jax
Race 6—1 Bold Freddy 2. Nuts Again 3. Great Revelation 4. Make Sure
Race 7—1 Favorite Trick 2. Mira, Big 3. Count Me In 4. Muskie 5. Play By Ear
Race 8—1. Fleming Bullet 2. District

Three 3 Bull Rider 4. Power Drive
Race 9—1. Bidang B da 2. Gemstone 3. Lyonais 4. Proud Idol 5. Repertoire
Race 10—1. Golden Eagle 2. Noble Regent 3. Magnificent Seven 4. Silver Rose
Race 11—1 Golden Tale 2. Alert One 3. Beatitudes 4. Forgotten Hero 5. Easy Win
Race 12—1 Breakaway Artist 2. Anahaw 3. Queen Storm 3. Pride of Mandaua 4. Windy City 5. Silver Lining
Race 13—1 Magic Fingers 2. Zenie's Pride 3. Bethsila 4. The Painter
Race 14—1 Bull Strike 2. Prince Armstrong 3. Perfect Gift 4. Caesar's Inn 5. How About Me 6. Champs Elysees

Shaughnessy upsets Williams

STANFORD, California — Meghann Shaughnessy upset Wimbledon champion Venus Williams 2-6, 7-5, 7-6 (4) to advance to the semifinals of the Bank of the West Classic.

BASEBALL RESULTS

After Shaughnessy—who at times flashed a fiery temper—finally took Friday's match with a shot that Williams couldn't reach, she pumped her fist and raised her racket to the sky.

East Division	W	L	Pct
New York	42	41	.506
Boston	39	43	.476
Toledo	48	36	.569
Baltimore	45	37	.551
Tampa Bay	37	50	.429
Central Division	W	L	Pct
Cleveland	59	42	.584
Minnesota	60	43	.582
Chicago	60	41	.595
Detroit	45	57	.439
Kansas City	40	63	.388
West Division	W	L	Pct
Seattle	74	29	.718
Oakland	55	48	.534
Anaheim	52	51	.505
Texas	45	57	.441
NATIONAL LEAGUE	W	L	Pct
San Diego	47	46	.505
Philadelphia	52	46	.529
San Francisco	56	48	.538
Los Angeles	49	44	.523
Colorado	43	50	.463
American League	W	L	Pct
Los Angeles	50	44	.529
San Francisco	56	48	.538
San Diego	49	44	.523
Colorado	43	50	.463
National League	W	L	Pct
Chicago Cubs	41	51	.445
Philadelphia	47	46	.505
Pittsburgh	40	63	.388
Cincinnati	33	63	.343
American League	W	L	Pct
Los Angeles	50	44	.529
San Francisco	56	48	.538
San Diego	49	44	.523
Colorado	43	50	.463

"My main focus today was to control the match," Shaughnessy said. AP

Shoot seminar set

SEVERAL significant discussions are scheduled at the 2001 Defense & Sporting Arms Show on Aug. 1-5, 2001 at the Megatrade Hall of SM Megamall B. Luisito Cantenas, president of PPSA World Shoot Foundation will be the main speaker. He will be assisted by Jojo Naranjilla, head coach of the Philippine Gold Team to World Shoot XII, Jag Lejano and Jay Morales, team members of the Open Men's Team Champion-World Shoot XII, and Grace Tan, team member of the Ladies Team Champion-World Shoot XII.

Seminar participation is free. Organized by the Association of Firearms and Ammunition Dealers of the Philippines Inc. (AFAD) and TradeShow International Inc. (TSI), the annual event is sponsored by Wireless Solutions, Total Security Systems Inc., 105.1 Crossover, 89.9 Magic, 99.5 RT, Cityline 88.3, Pioneer, and BMB Karaoke Superband.

Harlem skips S. Carolina

PHOENIX, Arizona—The Harlem Globetrotters, a United States comedy troupe known for traveling around the world to play basketball, will not play in South Carolina over concerns of racism. Globetrotters owner Mannie Jackson said Friday the Globetrotters will bypass the state because it refuses to remove the Confederate flag from its Statehouse grounds. **AFP**

Sunday SPORTS

AL S. MENDOZA, Editor EDWIN M. VILLANUEVA, Assistant Editor



ALASKA Milk's Al Peek (left) deflects the attempt of Sta. Lucia Realty import Damian Owens Wednesday night in the PBA quarterfinals. The Aces prevailed, 78-68, to enter the semifinals. **KOMY HOMILLADA**



PBA SEMIS ON SMB battles Alaska; Red Bull vs P'foods

BY MARC ANTHONY REYES

GAMES TODAY
(Araneta Coliseum)
4:15 p.m.—SMB vs Alaska
6:30 p.m.—Purefoods vs

FOUR teams with four different agendas—San Miguel Beer, Alaska Milk, Purefoods and Batang Red Bull—clash today at the start of the twin best-of-five PBA Commissioner's Cup semifinals series at the Araneta Coliseum.

The Beermen, the defending champions, only have one thing on their mind and that is to impose their might against the Aces in their

separate showdown at 4:15 p.m.

"They (Aces) are a young team with a lot of talent and speed," said SMB coach Jong Uichico of their rivals. "And we can't be too confident facing them just because we have the experience."

Alaska coach Tim Cone shares Uichico's views, stating that anything can happen in their match-up.

"What I'm only sure of is that we'll give San Miguel a battle," said Cone. "We may get swept or we may sweep them but the bottom line is that we'll put up a fight against them."

Already, by sheer bench might, the winner in this series is expected to be the favorite for the championship, leaving the other series, pitting the Hotdogs against the Thunder, as mere undercard.

But that won't be the case if you'll ask Yeng Guiao, Red Bull's coach.

"I think the team is starting to really play according to our potential," said Guiao. "In this conference we managed to set aside our neophyte tag and really got to play as a matured squad."

Unfortunately for the Hotdogs, maturity is not the only strength the Thunder have. They are also bigger, faster and younger than Purefoods.

And to compound things for Purefoods, the franchise starts its semis campaign on the eve of the league decision whether the Hotdogs would stay or be disbanded, having been the third PBA team owned by San Miguel Corp.

"We just have one reason for wanting to win this conference," said Purefoods coach Eric Altamirano. "That is because we want to leave a legacy in the PBA if and when the (PBA) board decides that we have to go."

Of NBN and Purefoods

CONDOLENCE to the family of Alice Lopez Lim, the sports journalist who died recently at age 75. Alice broke frontiers by being one of the first women to go into sportswriting in the country. Proud to laughter, Alice was a warm and an extremely thoughtful person. Her body lies at Funeraria Paz along Amneta Ave., Quezon City.

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza



A minimum of P15 million. That's what NBN (formerly PTV 4) needs to cover the Kuala Lumpur Southeast Asian Games in September.

The NBN, the government's television station, is cash-strapped. But according to my friend Ron de los Reyes of *Malaya*, NBN chief Joey Isabela has said, "Halaban na aminin ko para sa bayan."

Para sa bayan. Fighting words. Nice one.

If all of GMA's men are like Joey Isabela, I believe this country can be great again, to borrow a Marcos line. The guy's got guts. And more. Love for country. Who can beat that? If one loves his country and uses that as fuel to achieve a mission, who needs other reasons, if not reasons, to launch a vision?

If only for that, Joey Isabela ought to be given a gold medal for valor.

Speaking of medals, Cito Dayrit ought to be given one, too. That is, if Cito, the country's Olympic boss, can do his share by waiving the P3.5 million as broadcast rights fees of the Philippine Olympic Committee in the NBN coverage of the SEA Games. Or, not exactly waive the fees but perhaps strike up a deal with NBN for a co-production venture?

Butch Tanson's help is much needed, too. Butch, the Philippine Sports Commission chair, can pitch in some money as the coverage anyway involves the nation's athletes, who, incidentally, are PSC's main reason for being.

C'mon, talk it out among yourselves, fellows. In talking, things that appear hard to achieve can suddenly become achievable.

Why, if Cito and Butch can toss in a united front on this, they'll go down in history as the first sports officials to really dish out a move designed for the common good of Philippine sports.

That'd be a class act.

I said this before but I'll say it again if only to stress my point: Why kill Purefoods when the team's done nothing wrong to the PBA? It's not a bad tree. It's a good tree, whose fruits since it joined the league in 1989 have become the envy of many.

Purefoods' only fault was, it got acquired by San Miguel Corporation.

I don't even consider that a fault. That was a business act and the league should never allow itself to be

affected by business actions. Instead, the PBA should stick to its main reason of existence: Entertainment. Entertainment through the presentation of first-class basketball. That was the code word of Leo Prieto, the father of the PBA. It remains the code word of the league today.

If Purefoods gets killed by a decree, that will set a bad precedent for the league. It means that it doesn't pay to maintain a team that has followed rules to the letter, brought prestige to the league with its numerous honors and awards. Not once did Purefoods bring the league to disrepute, no player, or coach, slapped stiff fines or penalties, no court cases even.

I cannot understand why the league has even bothered to treat the Purefoods case with so much fuss. So what if one person owns three teams in the league? What's wrong with that? He can even own all the teams if he wants to. What's the big deal, anyway? If one man wants to do that—and can do so—very well, let him be. The fans are the final judge anyway if that situation is saleable or not, they have the final say whether or not that is entertaining.

As I said, Purefoods is being put under the gun because of a silly rule that says no single person, or entity, can own three teams in the league. With SMC's acquisition of Purefoods, SMC now owns three to include San Miguel Beer and Barangay Ginebra. Now, going back to that rule mentioned, why pick on Purefoods alone? Why not Barangay Ginebra instead of Purefoods getting sacked? Because Ginebra entertains better than Purefoods, even if it's not been winning titles? Or, why not San Miguel Beer? Because SMB's been winning titles?

I say again that that rule is silly. The business of disbanded teams should be left alone to the discretion of the owner. Not by others, or through decrees. If I want to sell one of my three dogs, it's my decision. Not the family's because the dogs are mine. I feed them, I bathe them, I walk them in the morning.

Did anybody raise a hoot when Crispa, then the PBA's No. 1 team, disbanded in 1984?

I did. Like many other Crispa fans orphaned by the decision of Danny Florio, our departed dear friend who owned Crispa.

Again, why kill Purefoods?

If Danding Cojuangco won't touch his own team with a 10-foot pole so to speak, why do we even entertain the idea of killing Purefoods at all?

It sucks.

Stags tame Lions

BY JUNE NAVARRO

GAMES TUESDAY
(Rizal Memorial Coliseum)
12 p.m.—Lion vs JRU (jrs/srs)
3 p.m.—SSC vs CSB (jrs/srs)

SAN Sebastian College got the needed breaks in the stretch to edge San Beda, 81-77, yesterday in the NCAA basketball tournament at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum.

Skyscraper Clark Moore scattered 17 of his 19 points in the final half as the 6-foot-7 slotman relentlessly mocked the Red Lions at the front line.

But the Red Lions weren't in the mood to just roll over and die as they negated their ceiling deficit with their speed.

Clint Erestain and Britt Reroma typified the Red Lions' quickness as they prevented the towering Stags from ripping the game wide.

Too bad breaks went against the Red Lions as the Stags went on to pick up their third win in five outings.

The Red Lions, on the other hand, plunged to their fourth consecutive setback, also after five games.

"We relaxed in the fourth but we were too lucky to escape with this victory," said SSC coach Turing Valenzona.

Lucky indeed, the Stags seemed headed for a collapse as Reroma and Erestain teamed up for the Red Lions' last-ditch efforts.

Reroma, an RP youth mainstay, led a gallant charge in the crucial stretches to overtake the Stags, 71-70, 4:29 minutes left.

In the other seniors' tussle, Jose Rizal University nipped host Philippine Christian University, 85-81, to remain unbeaten in five games.

The Dolphins dropped to 1-4.

Scores:
SSC 81—Moore 19, Macapagal 11, Nadala 11, Caronell 10, Reguera 8, Lagarda 6, Falcasanes 5, De Leon 4, Najorda 4, Uy 2, Mercado 1.

SBC 77—Cordero 13, Oliveros 13, Bomboe 12, Reroma 12, Erestain 9, Hurdaniel 7, Casio 5, Juco 3, Manding 2, Weber 1, Lumen 0.

Quarters: 21-16, 41-39, 62-59, 81-77.

Blades tackle SJ Knights in clash of top MBA teams

GAMES TODAY (La Salle Lipa Gym)
3 p.m.—Nueva Ecija vs Socsargen
5:30 p.m.—Andoks vs San Juan vs LBC Batangas

TEAM STANDINGS		
	W	L
LBC Batangas	9	2
Andoks San Juan	9	3
Negros	9	4
Cebuana Lhuillier	9	4
Fedex Laguna	6	6
Nueva Ecija	2	9
Socsargen	2	10

LBC Batangas tries to stay in front when it faces Andoks San Juan team today in a game pitting the league's top two teams of the 2001 MBA First Phase at the La Salle-Lipa gym.

Ahead of the field at 9-2 slate, the Blades aim to extend their winning streak to seven against the Knights, their closest pursuers at second with a 9-3 record.

Batangas coach Nash Racela is expected to rely anew on his dreaded starting five of Alex Compton, Tony Boy Espinoza, Rommel Adducul, Eddie Laure and Stephen Antonio, who are all instrumental in the Blades' 84-81 win over the Knights in their initial encounter two months back.

Like Racela, Andoks San Juan mentor Philip Cezar has the luxury of a deeper bench built around on the intimidating frontline duo of 6-10' Rafi Reavis and 6-6 Olanzie Rodriguez and a dazzling backcourt combination of Bruce Dacia, Chris Calagiao, Chito Victorero, Danny Capobres and Randy Alcantara.

Both San Juan and Batangas are also expected to ride on the momentum of their recent wins. The Blades routed the Socsargen Marlins (103-86), while the Knights turned back the Nueva Ecija Patriots (113-104) last Wednesday.

The only likely advantage LBC Batangas can summon is the crowd support, a crucial factor which helped the Blades in reaching the top. To date, LBC Batangas is unbeaten at home with wins over the Cebuana Lhuillier Gems (83-69) and the Negros Slashers (75-74).

Meanwhile, lowly Nueva Ecija and Socsargen take on each other in the curtain-raiser at 3 p.m. The Patriots and the Marlins have been eliminated from the race to the next round after the Fedex Laguna Lakers booked the fifth and last berth following a 111-107 win over the Davao Eagles.

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COMPILED BY LORENZO MANGIAT

BOXING World Light Heavyweight Championship -- Roy Jones Jr. vs Julio Gortalez at 11:30 a.m. on RPN 9
MOTOR SPORTS: 2001 F1 Qualifying - German Grand Prix at 9:30 a.m. (r) on Star Sports
Races Day - German Grand Prix at 7 p.m. on Star Sports
2001 F1 World Championship - German Grand Prix at 7:45 p.m. on Star Sports
Chequered Flag - German Grand Prix at 10 p.m. on Star Sports

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METRO

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor



Jealousy
suspected
in abduction
of Mutya

GUMABON

A18

2 kids die in Tondo fire

A18

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Woman shoots accuser

BY ALCUIN PAPA

A WOMAN in Pasay City yesterday morning shot dead a man who had accused her of involvement in illegal drugs.

The victim was identified as Lito de la Cruz, 24, of Block 30, Lot 16, St. Edna Street in Maricaban, Pasay City, police said.

De la Cruz was shot in the back at pointblank range and the bullet went out through his chest, police said.

The shooting suspect was identified as Margie Sotolombo of 25-D St. Mary Street, Maricaban.

According to the investigation by

SPO1 Noellon Francisco of the Pasay City Police Criminal Investigation, the shooting happened around 9 a.m. yesterday in the residence of De la Cruz.

Police learned that Sotolombo went to De la Cruz's house after she learned that he accused her of involvement in the illegal drug trade in their area.

According to a witness, De la Cruz and Sotolombo argued until the woman shot her accuser.

Neighbors brought De la Cruz to the Pasay City General Hospital but he died along the way.

The suspect was arrested immediately after the shooting.

Bus pins commuter to death

BY PHILIP C. TUBEZA

A COMMUTER yesterday morning was pinned to death by an air-conditioned bus that rammed into the jeep he was clinging to in Quezon City.

Cirillo Oben Jr., 45, of Kalusogan Street in Barangay Batasan Hills, Quezon City, died on the spot after a Sunmen bus (NYG 385), driven by Rodel O. Tatad, crashed into the jeep Oben was riding, said investigator PO3 Gary Talalay of the Central Police District-Traffic Sector V.

Vicky Elmaga, Traffic Sector V radio operator, said the accident happened around 7:30 a.m. yesterday along Commonwealth Avenue.

Elmaga said Oben was standing on the back entrance of an Isuzu passenger jeep (PWL-972) driven by Rena D. Ortega, 43.

The Sunmen bus, like the jeepney, was on the southbound lane of Commonwealth going to Pilcosa, Elmaga said.

But when the jeep reached the corner of Commonwealth and Ilang-ilang Street in Barangay Batasan Hills, the bus rammed into its rear.

Tatad claimed his bus lost its brakes, Elmaga said.

"Unfortunately, the victim was clinging to the rear portion of the jeep," she said. "And so he was crushed and was pinned to death by the collision."

Oben was already dead when rescuers removed his body from the jumble of twisted metal at the collision scene.

Elmaga said police were still trying to find out which driver, Ortega or Tatad, should be held accountable for the bloody collision. Both of them are detained in the Traffic Sector V jail.



FEAR and fire drive residents of Gagalangin, Tondo into a frenzy as they try to save their belongings

2 kids die in Tondo fire

BY JEROME ANING

A 6-YEAR-OLD girl and her 5-year-old brother were killed in a fire that lasted almost 11 hours in a densely populated Gagalangin in Tondo, Manila on Friday night.

The fire also destroyed 300 houses—mostly squatter residences along the Philippine National Railways tracks—and small commercial establishments, leaving about 600 families homeless.

Fire authorities estimated damage to property at P100 million.

PO2 Oscar Rupero of the Manila fire department identified the children as Judelle Fernando and her brother Jofel, whose remains were found in their gutted house. The fireman said the children's father Leonardo, 38, was among at least 10 people injured in the blaze.

Leonardo told firefighters that in the confusion, he thought Jofel and Judelle were following him and his wife as they fled from their burning house, taking with them all the clothes and valuables they could carry.

The fire started about 8:15 p.m. at a boarding house owned by one Clara Mulawin at 695-G Interior 11 on Laguna Street Extension.

Residents told arson investigators that Walter and Lorna Salinas, who were renting a room in Mulawin's house, reportedly had a fight and could have forgotten to watch the kumay baboy (pig slop) they were cooking outside the house.

Residents said they saw smoke and flames rising from the wooden walls of the house near the place where the slop was being cooked. But fire investigators have yet to confirm this account.

PO2 Rupero said the blaze spread

quickly because most of the houses were made of light materials. From Laguna Street, the fire spread to adjoining neighborhoods on Dagupan Street Extension, Maria Guizon Street and a portion of Antipolo Street.

The fire also damaged a Meralco substation and several posts, plunging into darkness much of western Manila and portions of southern Caloocan City.

The blaze reached general alarm status and was put out at 6:44 a.m. yesterday.

Around 11 a.m., President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and Mayor Lito Atienza visited the residents affected by the fire in barangay halls, public schools and sports complexes that were converted into evacuation centers.

The President and the mayor distributed relief goods to the evacuees. Atienza promised to shoulder the funeral expenses of the Fernando siblings.

Jealousy suspected in abduction of Mutya

BY PHILIP C. TUBEZA

POLICE are looking into the possibility that Mutya ng Caloocan beauty title holder Sheena Marie Gumabon may have been abducted by an alleged lesbian because the latter was jealous of the girl's relationship with Caloocan officer-in-charge Rey Malonzo's 17-year-old son.

Malonzo's son and Gumabon, 16, reportedly have been involved in a romantic relationship for seven months now.

Yesterday, Malonzo said he received three text messages yesterday morning, supposedly from the missing girl, assuring him that she had not been abducted.

However, Malonzo said he could not confirm if the messages were authentic because his phone did not register the phone number of the person who sent the messages.

Malonzo admitted that Gumabon has been close to his family since she won the Mutya ng Caloocan contest in February. But he declined to comment on her alleged romantic relationship with his son.

"That is a personal matter between them," Malonzo said. "But, yes, she has become close to our family."

He said he even provided a scholarship for Gumabon at the Manila Central University in Caloocan but he later learned that she attended her classes only for a week.

Gumabon has been missing since July 17 after she was allegedly abducted by Leah Reyes, 28.

On Friday, the girl's mother, Hermosa, told police that Reyes might have forced her daughter to work in a Quezon City bar.

Caloocan police also confirmed that Gumabon has been seen working as a guest relations officer (GRO) in Quezon City bars.

Man kills wife over nagging

BY BLANCHE S. RIVERA

WHEN contract worker Virginia Muduc came home from overseas, her husband met her not with a warm welcome but with a bullet in the head in Mandaluyong City Friday night.

Muduc, 33, died on the spot while her husband Roldan took off with the handgun, police said.

SPO1 Virgilio Reyes said in his initial report that the couple had been arguing in their house at the Welfareville Compound in Barangay Adhona Hills about 6 p.m. Friday.

Police believed Roldan was upset because she had been constantly nagging him for allegedly seeing another woman on the sly.

The couple's argument abruptly ended when a single shot rang out in their house, police said.

Police could not confirm when the wife returned to the country or how long she would have stayed.

The husband is said to be still in Metro Manila, police said.



FIRST STRIKE

More than a month after June 2 when they went on strike for the first time in the 22-year history of the historic Club Filipino in Greenhills, San Juan, the workers have not given up in trying to make management go into a collective bargaining agreement with them.

EDWIN MACASMAS

Green groups reject Atienza deadline

BY JEROME ANING

CONSERVATION and environmental groups seeking to preserve the Mehan Gardens yesterday said they are against the two-week deadline set by Manila Mayor Lito Atienza for the acquisition of an alternative site for the City College of Manila campus.

The mayor set the deadline on July 17, giving the groups only two weeks to finalize the land-swap deal between City Hall and the Department of Tourism. Conservationists hope the new CCM campus will be built on the DOT-owned property in Intramuros—site of the old

Ateneo de Manila School—instead of the Mehan Gardens.

But independent conservationist and historical researcher Tina Testa said in a phone interview that "it should be up to the mayor and his people to make the proper representations with the DOT for the Intramuros site."

"It's city hall's problem to get the site," she said. "What we conservationists were asked to do is to find an alternative site agreeable to both parties."

She expressed concern with the deadline which the mayor suddenly imposed last week. Atienza cited CCM students' urgent need for a new campus.

Atienza warned that the CCM campus might still be built on Mehan if no alternative site would be found. He has also written the Heritage Conservation Society, one of the groups opposed to the construction, advising it that the deadline is less than a week away.

Last month, at the height of the controversy created by the proposed construction on Mehan, the Department of Natural Resources and Environment formed a committee to look for another site for the college.

The body, composed of conservationists, City Hall officials and representatives of the National Historical In-

stitute and the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, recommended the old Ateneo, the Ramon Avanceña High School in Quiapo and another public school in Tondo.

Atienza said he would write the DOT regarding the site, but Testa said Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon is currently out of the country. She said the conservationists were not aware if Atienza had already written the letter.

The CCM construction had not yet started when the DENR issued a cease-and-desist order against it for the city government's failure to obtain a permit to cut and prune trees in the park.

No end in sight to Malonzo-Asistio poll feud

BY GERALD G. LACUARTA

AND another week has passed.

The Commission on Elections' cramming to meet the Supreme Court deadline on the party-list disqualification cases has delayed by another week the resolution of the unopposed in Caloocan City involving the camps of city officer-in-charge Rey Malonzo and challenger Luis Asistio Jr.

Last week ended with the Comelec

still unable to release the decision on the petition filed by Asistio asking the poll body to declare a failure of the May 14 election in Caloocan due to alleged fraud and massive disenfranchisement of voters.

It has been nine working days since Comelec Commissioner Luzviminda Tancungco released a draft resolution on July 16 and had it circulated among the six other members of the en banc for their signature. The other members of the en banc may concur or dissent with

the draft decision that she penned, or abstain from voting altogether.

In the draft resolution, Tancungco said there were strong grounds to declare a failure of election in Caloocan, and proposed that special election be held again in August. She noted that as many as 70,000 registered voters failed to vote in the elections in the city, and said the number was significant enough to materially affect the election results since Malonzo led Asistio by only 31,000 votes.

Comelec insiders on Friday said the draft resolution was still on the desk of one of the commissioners. The same sources said Commissioners Rex Borra and Florentino Tuson had already dissented to the draft resolution.

Chair Alfredo Benipayo, who was supposed to be the last to sign, already had a vote which he submitted to the en banc as early as the third week of June before he left to attend a conference in Stockholm.

Use of Manila barangay funds limited to specific projects

BY JEROME ANING

STARTING next year, Manila's 897 barangays may use their budget only for the degrading of sewers, clearing of sidewalks of illegal obstructions and street lighting.

Manila Mayor Lito Atienza cited the need to "focus our resources on the implementation of the city government's development program, especially at the

barangay level."

He said barangays should harness their resources and align their programs with City Hall's development efforts.

"We expect the barangays to do their share," he said in a press statement. "No buying of vehicles and renovation of barangay halls for the time being."

He urged barangay chairs and councilors to use what is left of their bud-

get this year for the clearing of canals and esteros, removal of illegal structures from sidewalks and putting up of street lamps.

The barangay budget for next year will be strictly limited to such projects, he said.

According to the mayor's office, each Manila barangay receives P500,000 to P1 million a year from the city's Internal Revenue Allotment, real prop-

erty tax income and other sources. The share of the barangays in real property taxes this year alone amounted to P243 million.

Atienza ordered Manila Barangay Bureau chief Norberto Enriquez to relay the new policy to the barangay executives. The city treasurer, the city accountant and the budget officer were also directed to ensure compliance to the new policy.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, July 29, 2001
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading:

Yahweh said, "How great is the cry for justice against Sodom and Gomorrah! And how grievous is their sin! I am going down to see if they have done all that they are charged with in the outcry that has reached me. If it is not so, I will know."

The men with him turned away and went toward Sodom, but Yahweh remained standing before Abraham. Abraham went forward and said, "Will you really let the just perish with the wicked? Perhaps there are fifty good people in the town. Are you really going to let them perish? Would you not spare the place for the sake of these fifty righteous people? It would not be at all like you to do such a thing and you can't let the good perish with the wicked, nor treat the good and the wicked alike. Far be it from you! Will not the judge of all the earth be just?" Yahweh said, "If I find fifty good people in Sodom, I will spare the whole place for their sake."

Abraham spoke up again, "I know that I am very bold to speak like this to my Lord, I who am only dust and ashes! But perhaps the number of the good is five less than fifty. Will you destroy the town because of five?" Yahweh replied, "I will not destroy the town if I find forty-five good people there." Again Abraham said to him, "Perhaps there will be only forty." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." Abraham went on, saying, "May my Lord not be angry, but let me speak. Maybe only thirty good people will be found in the town." Yahweh answered, "I will not destroy it if I find thirty there." Abraham said, "Now that I have been so bold as to speak to my Lord, what if only twenty can be found?" He said, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy the place."

But Abraham insisted, "May my Lord not be angry, but let me speak just once more. What if only ten can be found?" And Yahweh answered, "For the sake of ten good people, I will not destroy Sodom."

2nd Reading:

I refer to baptism. On receiving it you were buried with Christ; and you also rose with him for having believed in the power of God who raised him from the dead.

You were dead. You were in sin and uncircumcised at the same time. But God gave you life with Christ. He forgave all our sins. He canceled the record of our debts, those regulations, which accused us. He did away with all that and nailed it to the cross.

Gospel:

One day Jesus was praying in a certain place and when he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples." And Jesus said to them, "When you pray, say this: Father, hallowed be your name, may your kingdom come, give us each day the kind of bread we need, and forgive us our sins, for we also forgive all who do us wrong, and do not bring us to the test."

Jesus said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend and goes to his house in the middle of the night and says: 'Friend, lend me three loaves, for a friend of mine who is traveling has just arrived and I have nothing to offer him.' Maybe your friend will answer from inside: 'Don't bother me now; the door is locked and my children and I are in bed, so I can't get up and give you anything.' But I tell you, even though he will not get up and attend to you because you are a friend, yet he will get up because you are a bother to him, and he will give you all you need."

And so I say to you, 'Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and it will be opened to you. For the one who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to him who knocks the door will be opened. If your child asks for a fish, will you give a snake instead? And if your child asks for an egg, will you give a scorpion? Even you evil people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more then will the Father in heaven give holy spirit to those who ask him!'

Commentary:

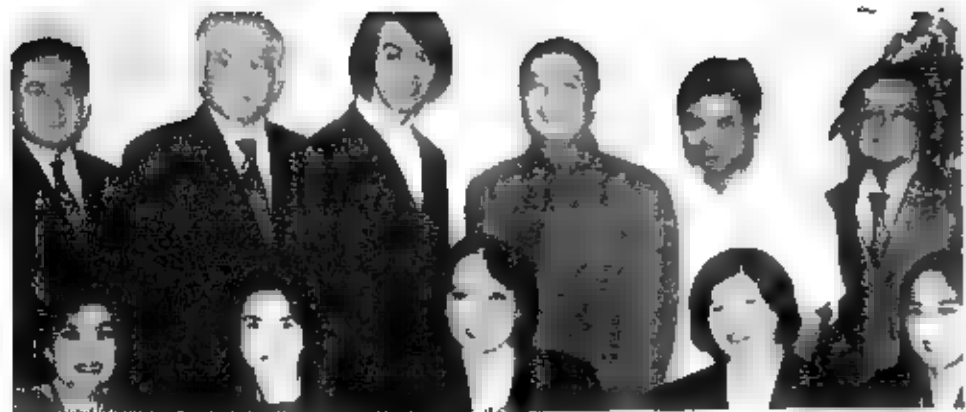
In his Gospel, Luke pays special attention to prayer and the need to pray constantly. Today's reading is an example of this concern. The teaching of the Lord's Prayer is complemented by a wider instruction about prayer. Prayer is asking for life in its various aspects. This life will be given abundantly to everyone who asks for it. Jesus indicates that the highest gift of the Father is the Holy Spirit and he invites his disciples to ask for this gift. Luke gives high prominence to the presence of the Holy Spirit. It is the power of God that brings to the fore the real dimensions of the human person as child of God. Heavenly Father, we thank you for the wonders of life. Grant us your Spirit to guide us on our way to your kingdom.

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SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

REMEDIAL LAW (CRIMINAL PROCEDURE)/CRIMINAL LAW (CRIMES AGAINST CHASTITY)—Attendant circumstances in rape cases must be alleged—The attendant circumstances for rape in order that they may properly qualify the crime to the penalty specially prescribed by law. This is based on the fundamental principle that every element of which the offense is composed must be alleged in the complaint or information. The main purpose of requiring the various elements of a crime to be set out in an information is to enable the accused to suitably prepare his defense. He is presumed to have no independent knowledge of the facts that constitute his offense. In the case at bar, the Complaint filed against the accused, under which he was arraigned, accused him of raping by means of force and intimidation employed "a minor, 14 years of age" without, however, any allegations of the relationship between accused-appellant and the victim. Accused-appellant can only be convicted of simple rape and cannot be held liable for qualified rape in the absence of any allegation of the requisite relationship in the complaint or information. Even if such relationship was duly proved during the trial, still such proof cannot be considered to convict accused-appellant of qualified rape and to consequently impose on him the death penalty since he would thereby be denied his constitutional and statutory right to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation against him. (Citations omitted.) [En banc, Justice Bellosillo, People v. defensor, G.R. No. 136102, January 31, 2001]

DIGEST BY R. B. VERA



TALENT AGENTS TO LAUNCH 'GREENBOOK'

The founding members of Talents Agents Organization (Tao) announce the forthcoming launch of the "Tao Greenbook," the directory of talent agencies. The launch will also formally announce the newly implemented one-agent-one-client (per commercial model), agreed between the members of the Tao and advertising agencies. In photo are elected officers of Tao to serve the year 2001-2003 term: (seated from left) Nena S. Ledesma (general manager, Ledesma Promotions), adviser;

Angie Bonnevise (Models Shop), director; Susan Dalton (Faces), director and Grievance Committee head; Baby Coching (Coching Enterprise Inc.), director and Membership Committee head; Mayette G. Tiaoqui (Ad Management Team), secretary; (standing from left) Bce Manalo (Frame Fillers), Director; Andy V. Olavar (Talents Directory Philippines), public relations officer; Alberto Balgob (Imaj), vice president and group head, Internal Affairs; Gabby de la Cruz (Cosmopolitan Ad Promo and Casting Agency), president; Alvin R. Manacsa (AFM Casting International), adviser; and Avelino "Baying" Decena, director and head of Special Events.

Rene Russo Pierce Brosnan
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Call your cable operator today if you cannot receive STAR Movies.

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Open to all from ages 6 to 65 years old

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For inquiries call 727-89-75, 727-83-47 or 700-90-38
WAGAN GISSA CAN YOU FIND A WORKSHOP FOR FREE?

Theme from 'Monica Brava'

"CAMBIO Dolor, the theme from the worldwide hit telenovela "Monica Brava," is now available in the self-titled debut album of lead star Natalia Oreiro.

The album features 17 tropical-pop tunes including a dance remix version of the soap's theme. It has already reached triple platinum status in Argentina and has reached gold or platinum in non-Latin countries like Greece, Slovenia, Hungary, Turkey and Israel. Oreiro is the lead



star of the popular soap opera which received the highest rating ever in Argentina.

Born May 19, 1977 in Montevideo, Uruguay, Natalia knew that she wanted to be a performer early on. At 17, she moved to Argentina to be able to concentrate on her dream. Now, her life

revolves around cameras, stages, recording studios and concerts.

In January 2000, Natalia was named "Celebrity of the Year" by E! Entertainment Television Latino.

Although Natalia has received numerous offers to star in films, she is now concentrating on her new album. She will dedicate the rest of the year to a Latin-American tour and more visits to Europe, the Middle East and Asia.

"Monica Brava" airs Mondays to Fridays, 8 to 8:30 p.m. on GMA 7.

Oreiro's self-titled debut album is released locally by BMG Records (Pilipinas), Inc.

3 of the country's biggest hitmakers together in one gigantic show

August 10 830pm Friday
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Tickets at popular prices!
P150 • P300 • P600 • P900 • P1200 (plus 3% service charge)

Freestyle: All Hits.

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LARGES	PANE	ARAB	REMIT
AIRIS	MONO	MONO	BRAYO
RAE	CLASH	HABOKOV	TEM
THEBEST	WATY	TOMAKE	AFIRE
EDA	AISTO	GV	
SHEA	LEROY	TBONE	FEZ
TEXT	TALON	BEARS	TARO
RNA	DRIN	PANSY	RETRO
ARC	YAG	NERDS	SHE
W	THWOST	CKSISTOMAYE	
EE	LAMAS	OED	VAL
JETER	BSON	NURE	ARF
AMIO	GATTY	AS	AN
MOP	PHASE	AFLAT	ELAIN
SRI	ASTA	BAS	
SURE	ONE	FITH	SAMATCH
TREE	STARTER	MONA	HAY
OBES	ASEA	AHAB	ZALRE
PAYAN	VERI	LOGE	OLEAN
NEW	SEN	LEER	NAFTA

Grab a Regular Hotdog on Stick for only P10

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SO HURRY! BUY A COMBO MEAL OF YOUR CHOICES AND WIN INSTANT PRIZES!

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Save P7.00 Before P57.00 Now P50.00
on Hidden Spring (6 s) 330 ml

Save P9.00 Before P64.00 Now P55.00
on Hidden Spring (6's) 500 ml

Save P8.00 Before P63.00 Now P55.00
on Hidden Spring (2 s) 1.5 liter

Save P2.00 Before P31.50 Now P29.50
on Gardenia California Raisin & Chocolate Chip Loaf

Save P1.00 Before P20.00 Now P19.00
on Gardenia Pandesal

FREE Keychain for every single purchase of Trolli Candy

FREE 4 Quickie Cup Noodles for every purchase of 6 Quickie pouches

FREE 2 Nacho BBQ 30g for every purchase of Clover Chips 90g.

Promo Duration: August 1 to 31, 2001.

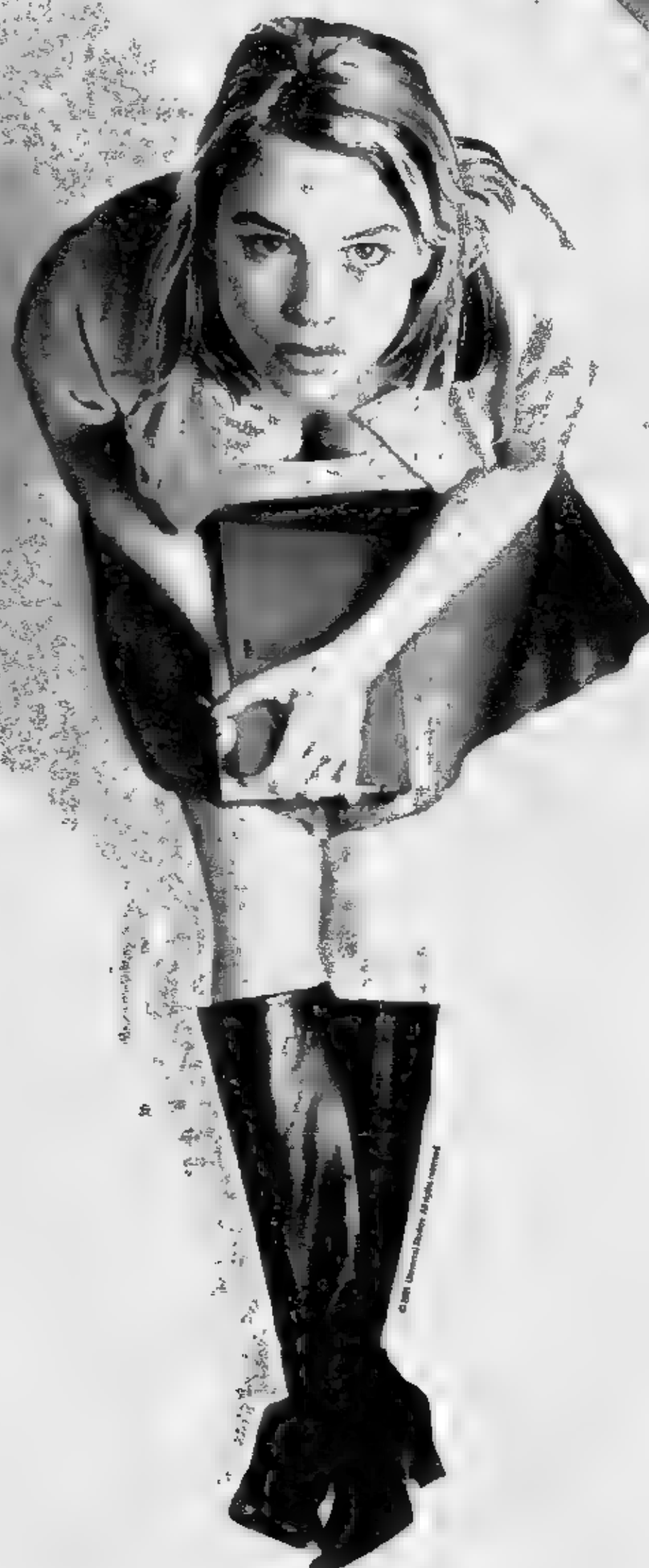
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ask her advice,

take her survey.



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Read her diary entry: send BJDARY to 2324. Ask her advice: send BJASK to 2324. Take her survey: send BJLIFE to 2324.

Globe Handyphone Prepaid and Postpaid subscribers can win tickets to the "BRIDGET JONES'S DIARY" Premiere.

1. Tune-in to Metro Manila radio stations 89.9 DWFM, 106.1 Crossover, NU 107.5 and wait for the DJ to ask the question: "What is Bridget Jones's Diary entry for the day?"
2. To get the answer, key-in .8.DIARY and send it to 2324. You should then receive the latest diary entry from Bridget Jones's Mobile via Text Message.
Example of diary entry:
9st3l Have gained weight overnight! How?? Have checked pillows and all are present.
No sign that have I been inadvertently consuming soft furnishings in sleep.
3. Call the radio station and read the diary entry/text message.

4. Radio DJ shall verify if message is indeed the one from Bridget Jones's Mobile. If correct, you'll win two (2) tickets for the premiere of Bridget Jones's Diary on August 4, 2001, Glorietta 4, Cinema 6 at 7:30 PM.
5. Winners of Bridget Jones premiere tickets can claim their prize at the participating radio stations starting July 27. Please bring a valid ID and your Globe Handyphone for verification. The station will check both the valid ID and see if the subscribers are indeed Globe subscribers by checking their number (which should start with 0917 or 0918).
6. Log on to www.myglobe.com.ph for more details.

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ENTERTAINMENT

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

Do we really need a two-hour newscast?

VIEWFINDER



Nestor U. Torre

WHEN we first heard that PTV-Channel 4 (now known as the National Broadcasting Network) was launching a two-hour weeknight newscast, we were impressed. Most other channels report the news for 30 minutes—one hour, tops. Channel 4's new "TeleDyaryo," telecast M-F from 8-10, showed that the government station valued the news enough to give it really exhaustive treatment each weeknight.

So, on July 17, we made time to watch the newscast from start to finish, to see if it would live up to its advance blurbs. Alas, it turned out to be not only exhaustive, but also exhausting.

Anchor Gani Oro and Chino Trinidad started with the day's headlines. Oro made a big deal about the new program's being a *pahayagan sa telebisyon*. Was this, in fact, a plus factor? The concept is dated.

The show prides itself on its "live remote" reports from different parts of the metropolis. That capability is a plus factor, but some technical glitches made its implementation that night less than overwhelmingly impressive.

After 30 minutes of reportage, we began to see some of the program's strengths and weaknesses. It went into a lot of details, which was initially helpful, but soon became much too much.

Also, we found ourselves getting ticked off by the excessive "traffic" between anchors and field reporters. Oro would introduce an item which Trinidad would elaborate on before the actual report from a field reporter, that sort of long-winded thing.

Also, there were too many capsule previews of items to be dealt with at length in the next portion.

And, to top it all, after about 45 minutes, there was a recap of the headlines!

And there were breakers like an ongoing viewers poll, plus an occasional "Alam Ba Ninyo" series that focused that night on (of all things) birds' eggs. There were also segment newscasters reporting on the stock market (he sounded like he was delivering a speech) and the foreign news.

After one hour, the long newscast was interrupted by the PCSO Lotto Draw, which went into excessive detail on the "judges" certifying that the process was on the up-

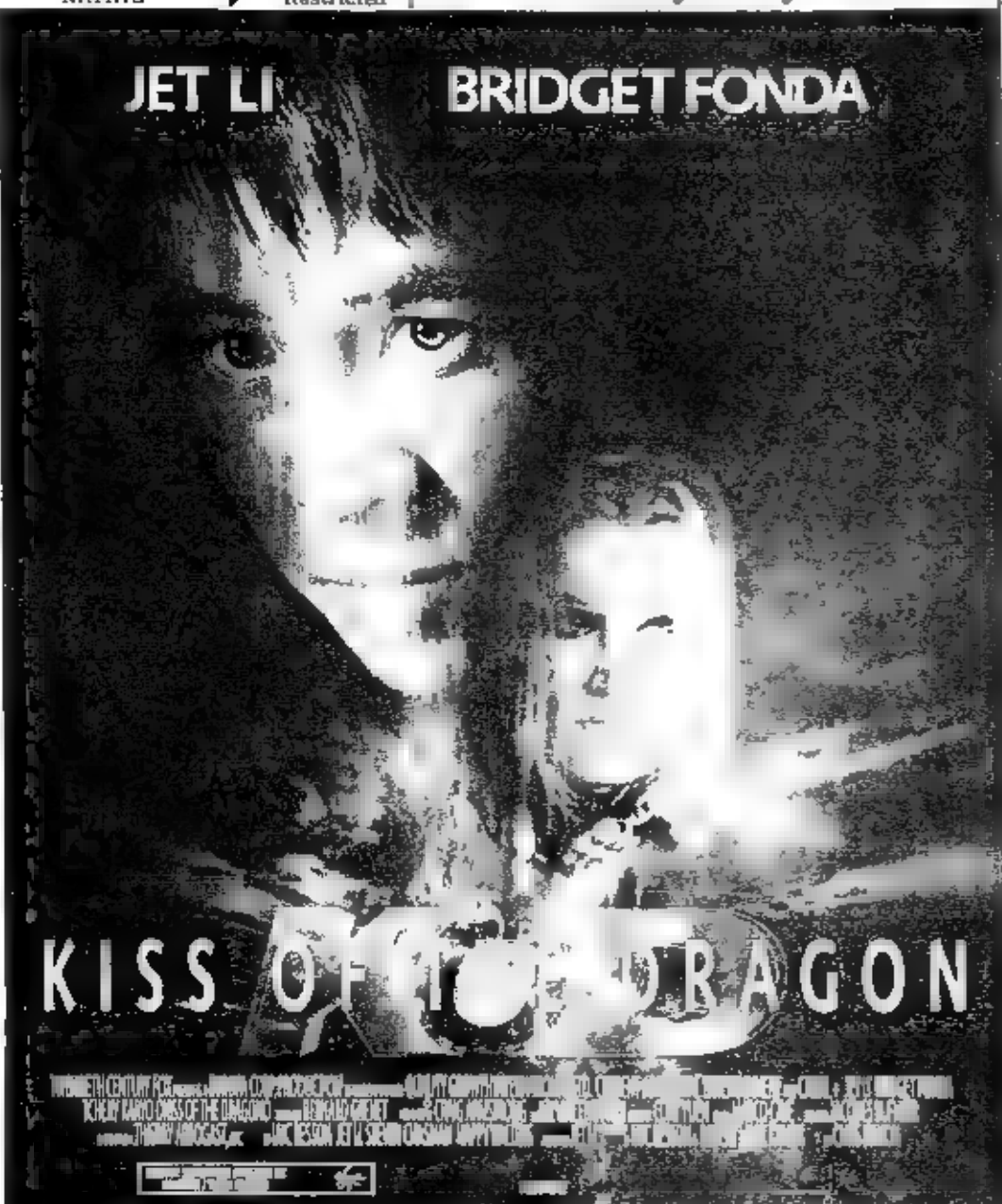
DO WE/A22

FEEL THE SKILL, THE SPEED & THE POWER OF JET LI UNLEASHED
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Strictly for ADULTS
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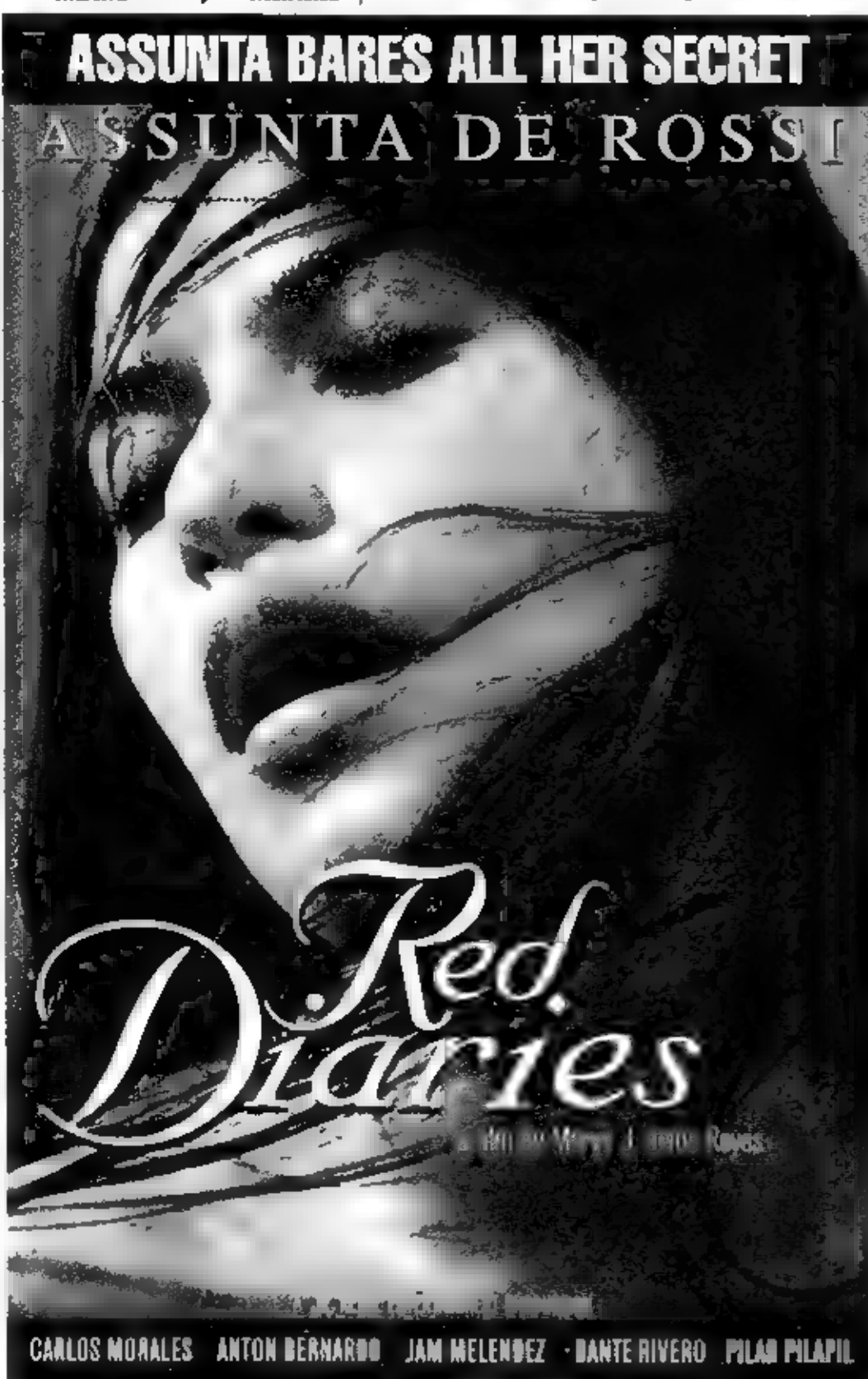
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MALL TOUR JULY 31, 2001 SM-MANILA - 11:00AM SM CENTERPOINT 1:00PM
SM NORTH 3:00PM SM FAIRVIEW 5:00PM SM MEGA 7:00PM

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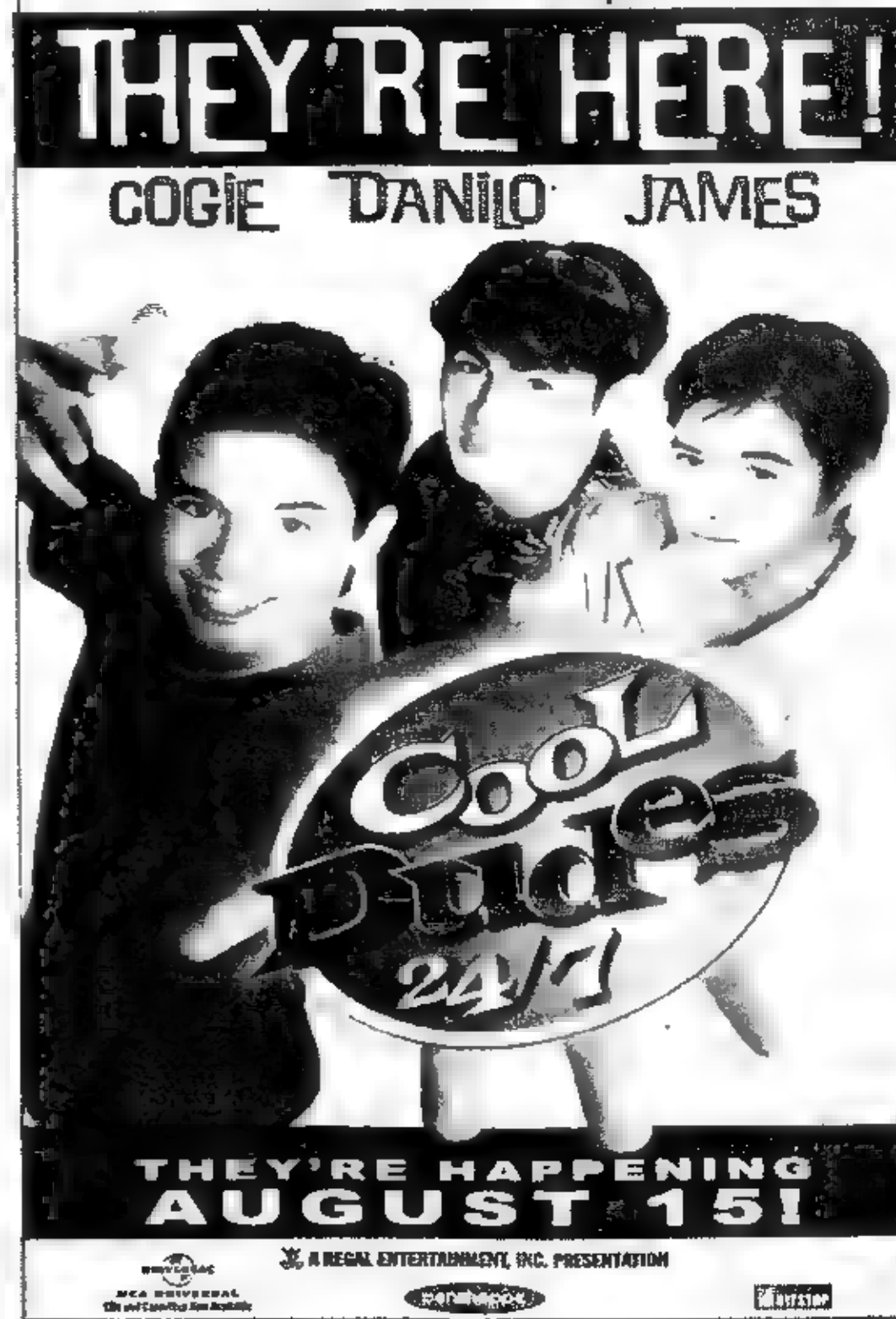


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IN YOUR FACE

BY L. R. LEVISTE



THE FEISTY Vivian Yuchengco can never be described as quiet. She always speaks her mind, and is sometimes found to be too frank for comfort by some people. But behind all the talk is a woman with a soft heart, and she will never admit it.



BUILDING Homes, Building Hopes. Petron president and CEO Motassim A. Al-Ma'ashouq (center) hands over a check to Mr. Fernando Zobel de Ayala, Chairman of World Leaders Build 2001. Petron continues to foster corporate volunteerism through its Volunteerism in Action (VIA) program by supporting Habitat for Humanity's World Leaders Build. Petron employee volunteers will build ten houses in various locations across the country from August 6-10 2001. Looking on is Housing Secretary Michael Defensor.

The economy, the blind men and the elephant

BY ROMULO L. NERI

IT IS during troubled times that simple folk seek out fortune tellers, in the same way that the more educated consult social scientists in an effort to clarify a problem, divine the future and map out a course of action thereafter.

And because of the saying "it takes one to know one," to this day, I am still hounded by persistent inquirers. They want me to explain "Why did most economists fail to predict the Asian financial crisis of 1997?" in hopes that as we enter a new political era and another economic cycle, the shape of things to come will be influenced by painful lessons.

EXECUTIVE READ

The economy is like a large elephant and the economists are the blind men who are trying to reach a consensus on the nature of the elephant. Most economists, when analyzing the economy, normally consider the following: GNP/GDP, savings rate, investment rate, fiscal indicators, monetary indicators, exports and imports.

Using the elephant metaphor for the economy, we can say that the GNP/GDP represents the solid sides of the elephant. A strong GNP/GDP performance indicates that the elephant is muscular and not scrawny. Savings and investments are the two front legs of the elephant.

When savings and investments are strong, the elephant has the ability to move forward quickly. Monetary and fiscal policies are the hind legs that support the elephant's forward movement while acting as the elephant's stabilizers. Export receipts can be likened to the elephant's food from the external environment while import payments can represent the elephant's excretion.

The elephant's ears may represent the currency's exchange rate. Some amateur economic analysts use the exchange rate as an indicator of the economy's health. Using the exchange rate as the gauge for the economy's health is like saying the elephant has big ears, therefore it is healthy.

But when the ears flap too much,

they can indicate nervousness. From another vantage point, the ear movements also stabilize the elephant's internal temperature the same way that freeing exchange rate movements allows for a more stable internal economy.

Going back to the Asian financial crisis, in fact, most economic indicators showed strong flourishing Asian economies from 1990-1995, and by 1996:

- GNP/GDP growth rates were high: Korea, 7.1 percent; Indonesia, 7.8 percent; Malaysia, 8.6 percent; Philippines, 5.8 percent; and Thailand 5.5 percent.

- Savings/GDP rate was high: Korea, 33.7 percent; Indonesia, 27.3 percent; Malaysia, 42.6 percent; Philippines, 18.5 percent; and Thailand, 33.7 percent.

- Investment/GDP rate was high: Korea, 38.4 percent; Indonesia, 30.7 percent; Malaysia, 41.5 percent; Philippines, 23.1 percent; and Thailand, 41.7 percent.

- Monetary (inflation rate) indicator was stable: Korea, 5 percent; Indonesia, 7.9 percent; Malaysia, 3.5 percent; Philippines, 9.1 percent; and Thailand, 5.9 percent.

- Fiscal Balance/GDP was stable: Korea, 0.5 percent; Indonesia, 0.2 percent; Malaysia, 0.7 percent; Philippines, 0.3 percent; and Thailand, 2.4 percent.

However, data showed that current account balances were somewhat problematic, i.e., imports were exceeding exports: Korea, 4.7 percent; Indonesia, 3.4 percent; Malaysia, 5.0 percent; Philippines, 4.7 percent; and Thailand, 7.9 percent.

This prompted a rather pertinent question relative to our elephant metaphor: Was the behemoth having diarrhea? Authoritative economists have explained this by saying that countries that grew fast had to import a lot of machinery and materials to support their high investment and GDP growth.

The argument seems to be that economists (a.k.a. blind men) failed to consider the internal workings of the elephant, i.e., the enterprises (called micro-economy by economists), the banking system (considered neutral by Keynesian economists), and the political governance system.

cal governance system.

The enterprises form the elephant's digestive and nourishment systems, while the banking system is the circulatory part of the elephant (with money as the lifeblood of the economic system). The political governance systems form the elephant's brains and nerves.

The causes of the financial crisis are rooted in an enterprise system that invested in questionable projects that resulted in financial losses, a weak and poorly regulated banking system that diverted financial savings into lending to these questionable projects and a political governance system that tolerated and even encouraged such wastage of economic and financial resources.

The Philippines came out of the financial crisis relatively unscathed, owing to a capable enterprise system with competent professional managers and a banking system that tended to be more careful than its counterparts in Asia.

However, some economists maintain that the reason that we escaped the worse aspects of the crisis was because foreign capital came in rather late and therefore, the Philippines borrowed less.

But what is now more perplexing is why the Philippines did not surge ahead in the race for economic recovery post the financial crisis, considering that it was the least affected?

As we have pointed out on many occasions, our problem seems to lie in the political governance system. While the rest of the crisis-stricken Asia rushed to repair its enterprise, banking and political governance systems, the Philippines remained complacent and eventually got mired in negative investor sentiment.

This absence of confidence stemmed from investor worries over political governance, with a government

perceived as lacking a clear policy direction, and one that tolerated and even encouraged crony interference in public policies.

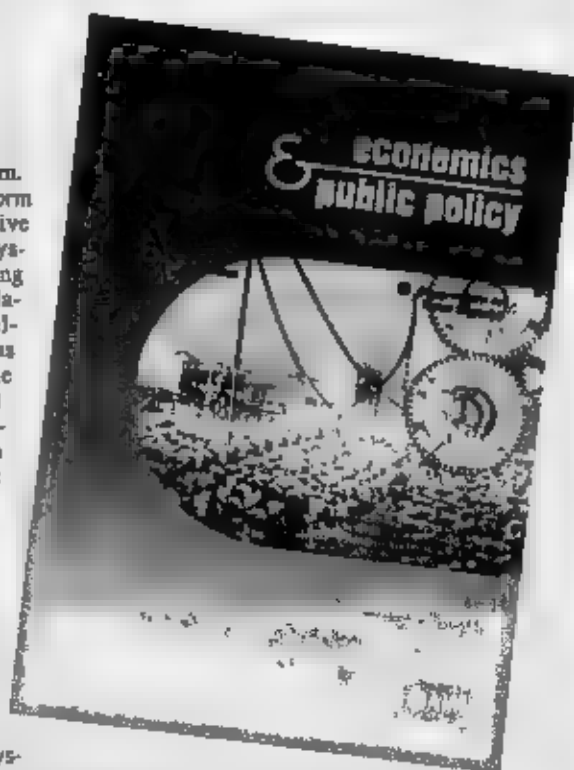
With chronic crony capitalism, enterprise rules are seen as flexible to favor those close to persons in power, with the greater national interest sacrificed in the process. Predictably, investors will avoid such a system since this raises the cost of doing business to intolerable levels.

Put in another way, would good players join a game when the referee is perceived to be partial?

Indeed, the health of the elephant's brain is crucial to its well-being. In the global economic environment, nations compete for investment through good governance since everything else—equipment, financial capital, technology, technical skills and corporate management—can be imported.

Unfortunately for us, only political governance is non-tradable. We cannot import competent and honest government officials, and neither can we export politicians or corrupt bureaucrats. Good governance has to be homegrown. Without a well-functioning brain, the elephant will fail to reach its proper feeding grounds and eventually starve to death.

(Excerpt from the author's "Economics & Public Policy, Aim 2001")

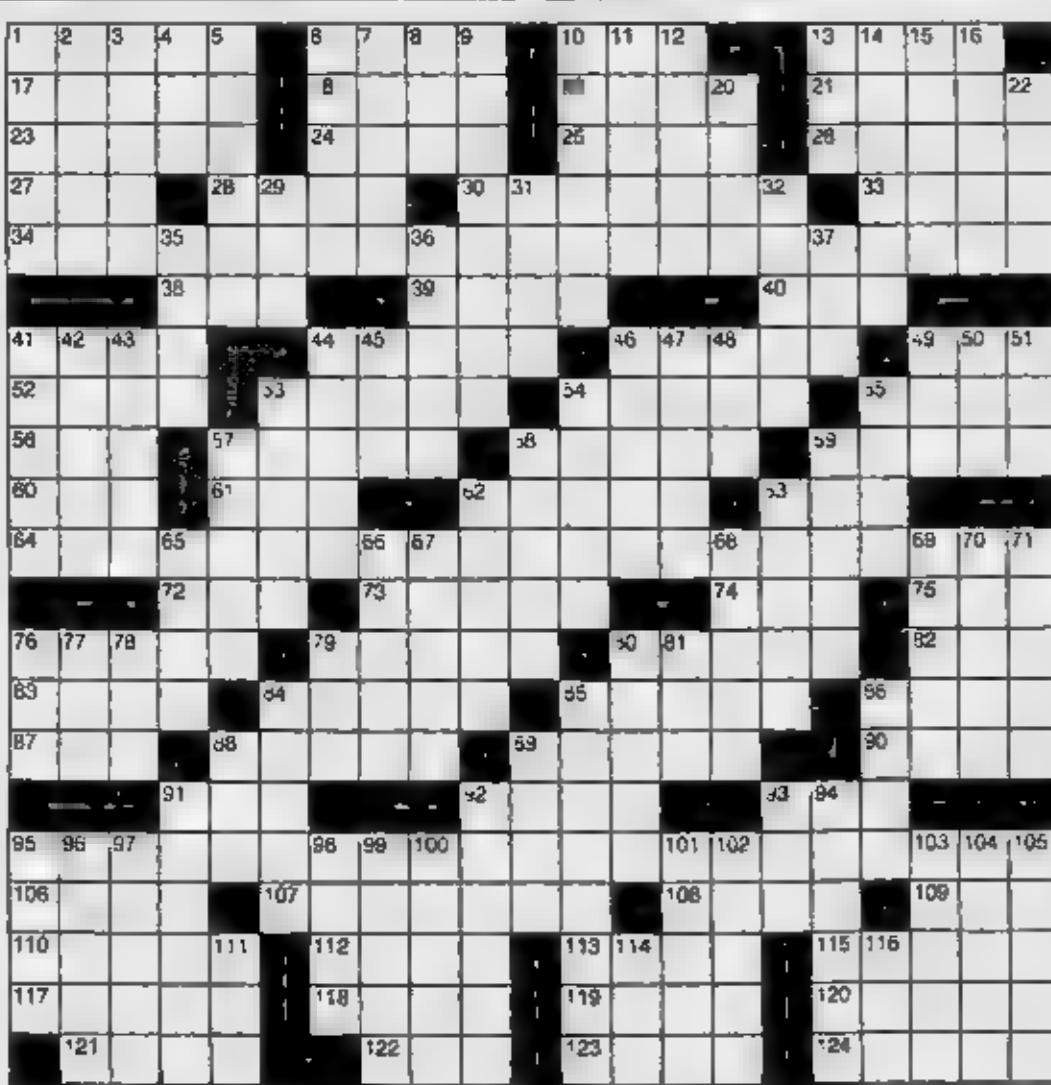


SUNDAY CROSSWORD

STRIKE ONE!

ACROSS

- 1 Resembling
- 6 Lowdown lit
- 10 Small shot
- 13 Ellipse
- 17 Prompts
- 18 Sheet of stamps
- 19 — League
- 21 Send payment
- 23 Buenos —
- 24 Computer image
- 25 Non-stereo
- 26 Praise for Pavarotti
- 27 "Norma —" ("79 film)
- 28 Bruins' sch.
- 30 "Ada" author
- 33 List entry
- 34 Start of a remark by Will Rogers
- 38 Author LeShan
- 39 About
- 40 Very cold
- 41 Mets' milieu
- 44 Artist Newman
- 46 Steakhouse order
- 49 Kasbah cap
- 52 Printed matter
- 53 Hook on a hawk
- 54 Wall Street spotters
- 55 Poi base
- 56 Code letters
- 57 Prominent Hatch?
- 58 Gardener's delight
- 59 So out it's in
- 60 Bow
- 61 Playground game
- 62 Uncool ones
- 63 Who stoops to conquer
- 64 Middle of remark
- 71 Snaky swimmer
- 73 Actor Lorenzo
- 74 Logical letters
- 75 "Knots Landing" character
- 76 Yankee Derek
- 79 Nickel creature
- 80 Toughen up
- 82 Dachshund declaration
- 83 Surrounded by
- 84 Dedicated to defamation
- 85 Laotian native
- 86 "La Boheme" seamstress
- 87 Lave the linoleum
- 88 Part of a process
- 89 Black piano key
- 90 Spirit
- 91 — Lanka
- 92 Mutt of mystery
- 93 — relief
- 95 End of remark
- 106 Corner a cat
- 107 Indy 500 figure
- 108 Actress Freeman
- 109 Furry's food
- 110 Destined to diet
- 112 Lost
- 113 Ultimate whale watcher?
- 115 Former African nation



- 117 Actress Marisa
- 118 Gatt of "Mr. Mom"
- 119 Theater section
- 120 New York city
- 121 Salamander
- 122 57 Across, a.g.
- 123 Look like a leech
- 124 Com. treaty

DOWN

- 1 Peck part
- 2 A Heap of Dickens
- 3 Come around
- 4 Look at
- 5 Sent out
- 6 Like some milk
- 7 Jungle bird
- 8 Top numero
- 9 "In Memoriam" poet
- 10 Hefty grass
- 11 Witch wheels?
- 12 Low-octane joe?
- 13 Sphere
- 14 Prove
- 15 Famed figure in fiddles
- 16 Bite producer
- 20 Opus
- 22 Magnum opus
- 29 R.E. Lee's govt.
- 31 Part of DA

- 32 Scores in orcs
- 35 Best
- 36 Huter Hank
- 37 Sail through
- 41 Scarecrow stuffing
- 42 Monsieur Matisse
- 43 Precise
- 44 A particular Key
- 45 Lilly of pharmaceuticals
- 46 Mans the bar
- 47 Met men

"Le Comte —"

- 49 Some winnings
- 50 Bungle
- 51 Gnat center?
- 53 Seek out a school?
- 54 Conifer coverings
- 55 Really rain
- 57 Sleek swimmer
- 58 Some kind of a nut
- 59 — Island
- 62 "In Search of..." host
- 63 Unyielding
- 65 Pay attention to
- 66 Opens the mail
- 67 Discernment
- 68 Hunker down
- 69 Serve a purpose
- 70 Fate

- 71 Impish
- 76 Berry sweet stuff?
- 77 Funny Philips
- 78 Inside info
- 79 Herd word
- 80 Farouk's faith
- 81 Nicole on "Fame"
- 84 Exercises the arms
- 85 "— is said and done"
- 86 A real butte
- 88 Expert
- 89 Tennis legend
- 91 Playground feature
- 92 Reach
- 93 Prohibition
- 94 Woman warrior
- 95 Subway station
- 96 Papal name
- 97 "Superman" star
- 98 Coup d'—
- 99 Desert refugees
- 100 Jacques, for one
- 101 Effigy
- 102 Like a judge
- 103 Man of steel?
- 104 Jeweler's weight
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Math whiz tutored...

(From page B1)

of my own baon. Between what I earned from tutoring and helping out in the gasoline station, I even had enough for a date," Ato tells the SundayBiz.

The math major in Ateneo earned P15 per two-to-three-hour tutoring lesson in 1972. It was big enough, he says, considering that his baon was P50 a week.

"I started teaching this young girl from St. Theresa's college who was on a home study program because she was something of a radical. I taught her trigonometry. Eventually word got around and I started teaching physics, algebra and chemistry to high school students," Ato says.

Ato continued tutoring until he finished his BS Math degree from the Ateneo after going through two years of Engineering at the De La Salle University. He was then ready to face the real world of the working people.

Ato says he was offered a teaching job at the Ateneo but he felt that he was not made for teaching so he tried the corporate world.

"Since most of my family was in business, I did not really have an idea about the corporate world. I did not know what my math course was good for. The school did not really prepare you for when you get out of school, so I just went through Ayala Avenue and submitted my resume to all kinds of companies," he explains.

He eventually went through the rigorous application process at Ayala Corp. He got as far as being interviewed by the top people of Ayala for a management trainee position. The application process was taking some time that he was feeling restless. It was at that time that he was offered another job.

"My dad had a friend who worked in Philam and he put in a good word for me but I still went through the tests and I passed. It was in 1974 and I was going 21 years old and I don't know, but the first time I went to Philam I had a good feeling about it immediately," Ato relates.

He was paid P450 a month at the time when the prevailing minimum wage was about P380 a month. He was hired as an actuarial trainee, which means he was a lowly member of the technical staff of the actuarial department.

"I did odd jobs like adding numbers using these calculators that at the time occupied half the table. But my best job there was that I was trained to use a Monroe programmable calculator, which was one of the forerunners of the portable computer," Ato says.

The math whiz, however, was not content with just being an actuarial trainee. He would take proficiency exams to make himself eligible for promotions because he wanted to spread his wings.

His chance came when Rodrigo del Rosario, who was executive vice president at the time, lost one of his key persons so he was left looking for someone with an actuarial background but was willing to go into sales and marketing.

Ato's boss recommended him to Del Rosario since he was good in actuarial, a specialized form of mathematics that is vital in the insurance industry.

"They considered me as an offbeat person there because I was not typical for an actuary. As the joke goes, actuaries are accountants without personalities. When everybody came in wearing straight pants, I was wearing flared pants. I even had two-tone boots. Maybe that's why I was referred to him," Ato says.

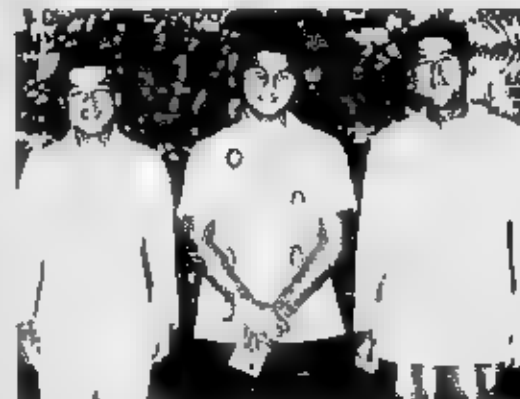
Ato can still remember the first time he met Del Rosario, who would become his mentor at Philam and much later his father-in-law.

They worked together since he was 22 years old and it was the start of a working relationship that would last for close to 20 years. Del Rosario, he says, was as willing to teach him as he was willing to learn, making Ato go up the ranks quickly.

At 23 years old, he was named assistant vice presi-



RENATO A. Vergel de Dios sharing a light moment with the first employee he ever hired, Jess Hofileña, now Executive Vice President for Philamlife.



MANULIFE CEO Renato Vergel de Dios flanked by two former presidents of Philamlife—Casar Zalamea and Rodrigo delos Reyes Zalamea then went on to become Centra Bank Governor.



ATO in 1977 during a conference with agents.

dent for sales, and two years later, promoted to SAVP. He was made responsible for sales and marketing, which meant dealing with the huge agency work force of Philam.

In 1981, at the ripe age of 28, he was named vice president for sales and then six years later, he was again promoted to SVP also for sales after Rodrigo took over the presidency of Philam when his predecessor, Cesar Zalamea, was appointed head of the Development Bank of the Philippines.

Ato says he owes his fast move up the ranks to having a role model like Del Rosario and his eagerness to learn from people who have been in the business for a long time.

Another major factor was his rapport with people, be it the agents, colleagues or superiors. He says he must have developed his people skills when he was

MATH/B3

PSE prexy defies age by getting into sports

BY DORIS C. DUMLAO

RAMON "RTG" T. Garcia, president of the Philippine Stock Exchange, is a living example of how physical fitness should be a lifetime passion.

While many people his age are confined to a wheelchair or can hardly walk, Garcia is still up and running and is as dynamic as his work at the

RTG, who celebrated his 72nd birthday last July 15, owes his health and vigor to his being a health buff through all these years.

The PSE president has the zest to outlast younger people in the dance floor, the vigor to continue engaging in sports and the discipline to follow his doctor's advice to the letter.

"My idea of retirement is when you're six feet under the ground," Garcia jests.

But Garcia—who agreed to assume the top PSE management post only after his doctor gave him a clean bill of health—believes that being health conscious is just one of the many factors behind aging gracefully.

"To me, over and above this physical health is spiritual health and I guess that is what really helps me meet the challenges I face," Garcia says.

A devout Catholic, RTG, who used to do marriage counseling at his parish in Bel Air, Makati, never fails to go to Mass and meditate everyday. He also conducts regular Bible study sessions in his parish.

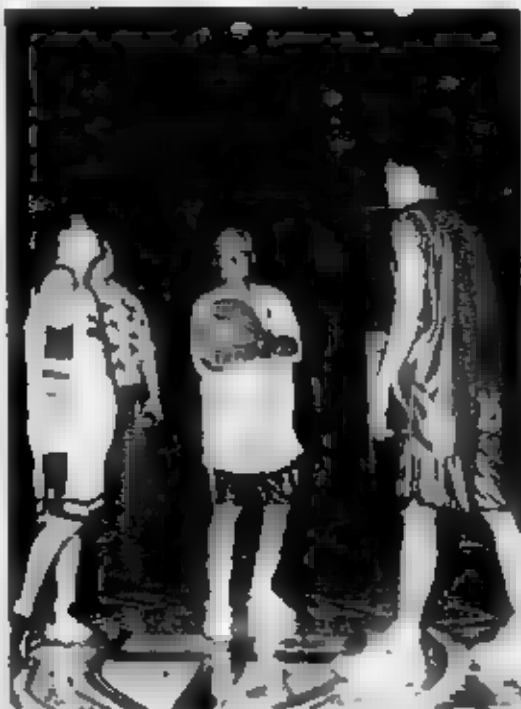
It is no wonder that one of his sons, Ramon "Monchung" Jr., is now a parish priest in Better Living, Parañaque.

"I've been attending Mass daily since I got my first communion at 7 years old. My day is not complete without participating in the Eucharist. In addition, I devote no less than an hour a day for my spiritual well-being. I make it a point to spend time for spiritual healing," he notes.

Garcia thanks the Good Lord for keeping him in good shape and with a sound mind to assume big responsibilities. He needed all the stamina he can muster since he became PSE president at the height of the investigations on the BW Resources Corp. price manipulation scandal.

The scandal almost led to the collapse of the stock exchange.

Since then, his job has not become easier, especially with the passage of the Securities Regu-



ONE of the changes Garcia instituted at the Philippine Stock Exchange was a whole-year fitness program.

lation Code. An offshoot of the BW crackdown, he says some of the provisions in the Code caused trading volumes to dwindle, which, in turn led to the closure of a number of brokerage firms.

Garcia, however, remains optimistic especially with the impending transformation of the PSE into a stock corporation. He believes the demutualization process will give fresh opportunities to the brokers in the future.

Physical routine

Garcia says it was not difficult for him to stay in shape since he has always been athletic since his younger days.

"Anything that's round and is involved with sports, I play. Let's start with golf, basketball, volleyball, bowling, squash and even pelota at the time that it was the fad. With the exception of tennis, practically all the racket games, I've already played," Garcia says.

Garcia, a true blue-blooded Atenean from grade school to college (he later got his law de-

gree from the Far Eastern University), first got into sports through basketball. "Here in PSE, I still play with the PSE (basketball) team, but my position now is benchwarmer," he kids.

When he has the time and the inclination, he plays volleyball and bowling with the PSE team and has even made it a point to share his passion with the rest of the PSE family.

"Since I believe very much in physical fitness, one of the initiatives I introduced in PSE is that everybody should pursue a physical program. That's the reason why basketball and bowling are now regular sports in PSE, not only during the yearly tournament but on a year-round basis," he says. "And also for the aficionados, we also started ballroom dancing and aerobics."

"My schedule is quite rigid to make sure that I have time for sports. I play golf twice a week, Sundays and Tuesdays and on Saturday I go for aerobics in our parish. On Wednesday evenings, ballroom dancing," Garcia says.

"At my age, I also do brisk walking in case I'm not able to play golf. I substitute it. I also use treadmill," he adds.

Garcia also considers swimming as the best form of exercise. He enjoyed this sport for some time but had to stop because it affected his eyesight.

Preventive measures

Engaging in sports is not enough to keep fit. It is also important for Garcia to regularly go to the doctor to monitor his health.

"Since many, many years ago, on my birth month (July), I go for a thorough annual physical check-up and it's really a check-up from head to toe and when there are indications of rise in blood sugar and cholesterol, then I take steps to be able to control it," he says.

"I do what is prescribed by the doctor, like if he says 'watch your diet' and I'm so particular about that, so I shy away from fats and too much sugar."

And what could be his diet secret?

"I take only fruits and oatmeal in the morning and milk. That's my breakfast wherever I am. For lunch, I cut down on fats. I just concentrate on

fish and very little rice or almost no rice. That goes also for dinner," he bares.

His alcohol intake is limited to a glass of wine, which has been medically proven to be good for the heart. He never touches a cigar, except on very rare social occasions when he cannot refuse, such as when the host offers a stick.

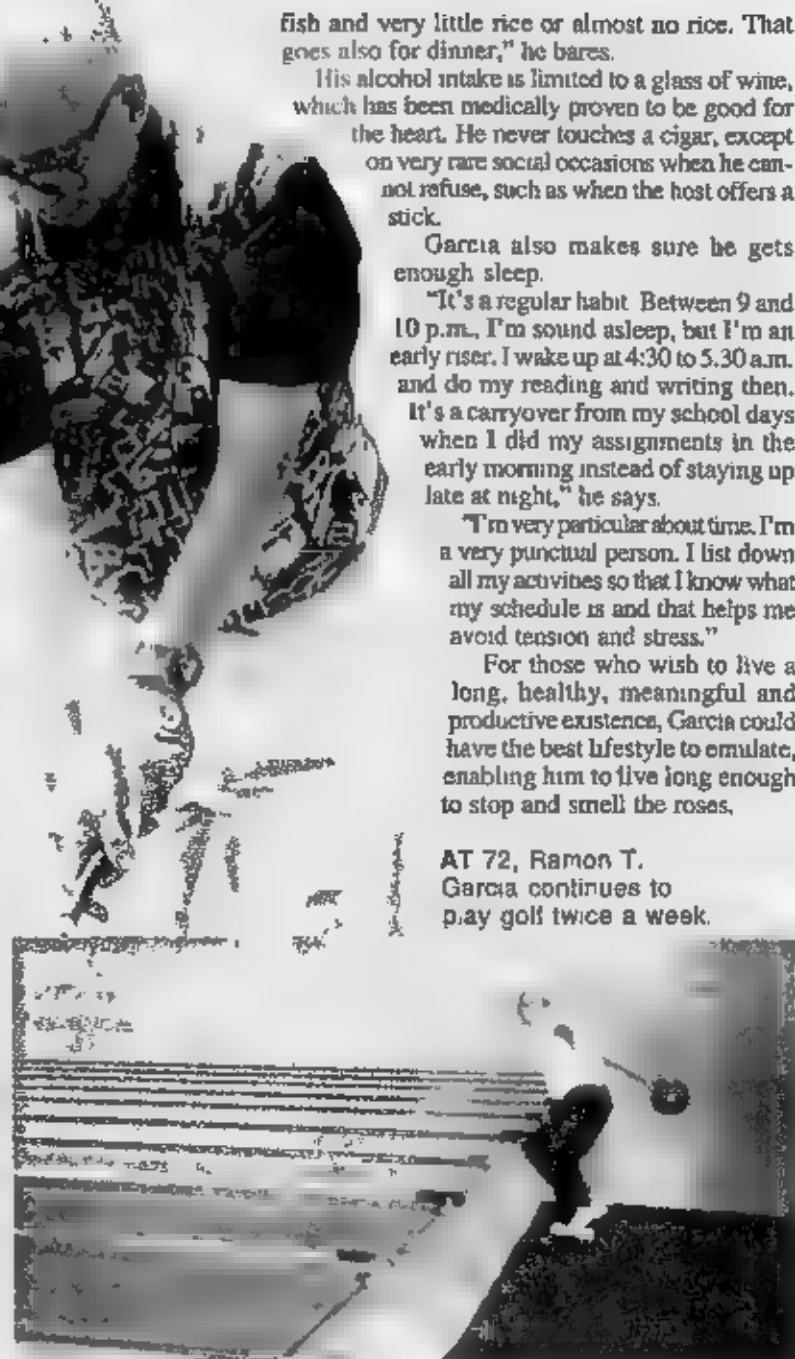
Garcia also makes sure he gets enough sleep.

"It's a regular habit. Between 9 and 10 p.m., I'm sound asleep, but I'm an early riser. I wake up at 4:30 to 5:30 a.m. and do my reading and writing then. It's a carryover from my school days when I did my assignments in the early morning instead of staying up late at night," he says.

"I'm very particular about time. I'm a very punctual person. I list down all my activities so that I know what my schedule is and that helps me avoid tension and stress."

For those who wish to live a long, healthy, meaningful and productive existence, Garcia could have the best lifestyle to emulate, enabling him to live long enough to stop and smell the roses.

AT 72, Ramon T. Garcia continues to play golf twice a week.



THE PSE head says a healthy lifestyle should be complemented by spiritual well being.

Humor...

(From page B1)

There was a time, she says, when three of them were living under the same roof and handling three competing products.

She was handling the copy for Pepsi Cola when she was working with Ace Compton (now Ace Saatchi & Saatchi), brother Dennis (one of the founders of the band Hotdog) was responsible for Royal True Orange and another sister, was handling the copy of 7-Up.

She was happy handling copy in an advertising agency but she was later lured to give the hospitality industry a try. The timing was right because there was a proliferation of hotels in the 1970s because of the IMF-WB convention in the country.

Garcia says it was the glamorous job at that time and she landed in the Regent of Manila. She has not left the industry since.

After her stint in the US, she was asked to work in Indonesia where she handled the successful opening of the Shangri-La Hotel in Surabaya, a port city. She stayed there for two years until the Westin chain invited her to head the marketing of its local branch. She was hired as an expatriate.

At the Westin, she ran smack into the rehabilitation of the hotel where all of the restaurants were closed and the food was served in function rooms.

Garcia, however, says they managed to come up with creative ideas that still attracted clients. The hotel was relaunched in January 1998 with 3,000 guests.

In July of that same year, she was pirated by Dust where she was able to successfully tap the business market and helped create better awareness about the hotel. Dust now enjoys a better and broader client base.

One thing Garcia noticed in her career is that she seems to get offers she cannot resist every three years. She just celebrated her third year at the Dust and one wonders what lies ahead. *Margie Quinipo-Espino*

Math whiz...

(From page B2)

still young. As a child, his playmates were his cousins and the children of the employees who worked for his grandfather's company.

"I climbed trees with them, played with a tirador and patintero so I learned about how they thought, their feelings and aspirations. I still feel that it helped me become a well-rounded person," Ato says.

Because of this, he did not consider it awkward to deal with the agents. He enjoyed all his trips around the country to meet the staff, the long hours and the late nights because he likes dealing with people, and communicating with them.

He picked up more and more skills as he moved up, eventually being promoted to executive vice president of Philam in 1993. It was when he felt that he learned everything he could learn at Philam that he moved on, eventually taking on the offer to become chief executive officer of Manulife Financial.

"I wanted to do something broader and I knew it was time to go when I started becoming irritable. I would go home many nights with a short temper. It came to a point when my second son who was seven years old at that time, told me that my sons are eventually going to leave me if I did not stop shouting at them," Ato says.

It was such a reality check that he immediately went about looking at other options, and he landed in Manulife Financial. It was the third or fourth time he was offered a CEO job but it was when Manulife came along that he felt that it was the right one to consider.

He became CEO when he was 42 years old and he is looking at further growing Manulife's business in the insurance and pre-need sectors, and in also acting like a mentor to his staff in the same way that he looked up to his boss in Philam.

"I really think that it made a difference in my career because at least you know how to plot your career path. I also stress the need for today's generation to develop their communication skills. Many of them are good but they cannot communicate their thoughts effectively. That is a problem," he says.

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BIRTH DATE		BIRTH PLACE	EXAM CENTER CODE
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Luzon Retail Sales
C-5 Bo. Ugong Pasig City
Tel. nos. 671-9817 / 671-9826
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Republic of the Philippines
City Government of Pasig
Pasig City

SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

Ordinance No. 19
Series of 2001

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING AND MANDATING AMNESTY ON THE PAYMENT OF PENALTIES, INTEREST AND SURCHARGE ON DELINQUENT REAL PROPERTIES, BUSINESS TAXES, MAYOR'S PERMIT, RENTALS ON MARKET STALLS, BUILDING PERMITS, OCCUPANCY AND ELECTRICAL PERMITS.

Authored By: Vice-Mayor Lorna A. Bernardo, Councilors Fortunato G. Co, Jr., Robert C. Eusebio, Roberto A. Barretto, Reynaldo R. San Buenaventura III, Jose S. Tatco, Jr., Rosalio D. Martires, Alejandro E. Santiago, Charmie Q. Benavides, Reynaldo F. Raymundo, Aquilino S. Dela Cruz, Gregorio P. Rupisan, Jr., Macario C. Cruz, Liga President Rolando C. Sambel and SK President Xavier M. Garcia

WHEREAS, Section 17 (a) of R.A. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991 provides that the local government units shall endeavor to be self-reliant and shall exercise such other powers and discharge other functions and responsibilities as are necessary, appropriate or incidental to efficient and effective provisions of the basic services and facilities;

WHEREAS, Section 18 of the Local Government Code of 1991 provides that local government units, among others, shall have the power to create their own sources of revenue and thereby ensure their development into self-reliant communities and active participants in the attainment of national goals;

WHEREAS, Section 456 (2) of the same code provides that the Sangguniang Panlungsod shall have the power to generate and maximize the use of resources and revenue for development plans, programs and priorities of the City;

WHEREAS, under Section 456 (2) (i), the Sangguniang Panlungsod shall have the power and authority to grant incentives and reliefs in the payments of taxes, fees and charges;

WHEREAS, the present economic crisis being experienced nationwide resulted in the delay in the payment of taxes, fees and charges and in the problems of paying interests, surcharge and penalties due thereon;

WHEREAS, to achieve the development of a more self-reliant city, the collection of real property taxes, business taxes, mayor's permit, rentals on market stalls, building permits, occupancy and electrical permits must at all time be promoted and enhanced.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD of Pasig City in session assembled that:

Section 1. CONDONATION OF INTEREST, PENALTIES AND SURCHARGES - There is hereby granted and mandated the grant of amnesty in the payment of interests, penalties and surcharges on taxes, fees and charges due on real properties, business taxes, mayor's permit, rentals on market stalls, building permits, occupancy and electrical permits. One Hundred Percent (100%) of the interests, penalties and surcharges heretofore mentioned shall be condoned for all delinquencies accruing for the year 2000 and prior years. However, interest, penalties and surcharge due on taxes fees and charges for the current year 2001 shall continue to be collected in the manner provided for by law and existing rules and regulations.

Section 2. COVERAGE - The amnesty on interest, penalties and surcharge is hereby allowed, granted and mandated for the following:

- Those real properties which are delinquent in the payment of real property taxes for the year 2000 and prior years;
- Those which are undeclared and subject to back taxes;
- Those buildings and improvements which were constructed and renovated in the year 2000 and prior years without the payment of the building, electrical, and occupancy permits, and to those machineries and equipment installed without paying the installation and electrical permits;
- Those business establishments which are delinquent in the payment of business taxes and mayor's permit for CY 2000 and prior years;
- Those business establishments which had undeclared their gross income for 2000 and prior years;
- Those legal occupants and awardees of stalls in the market who failed to pay the rental fees for the year 2000 and prior years.

Section 3. MODE OF PAYMENT - Within the amnesty period, the taxes, fees and charges due less interest, penalties and surcharges herein covered by the amnesty may be paid in four (4) equal monthly installments. PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the current year taxes, fees and charges including interest, penalties and surcharge are first paid and settled either in full or in installment basis. In case there is failure on the part of the taxpayer to pay any installment when due, the whole tax together with the penalty, interest and surcharge shall become due and demandable and shall be collected in accordance with law, rules and regulations.

Section 4. PROTEST - Any protest filed with the concerned city government office or department must be given due course and acted upon during the period of amnesty.

Section 5. EFFECTIVITY - The amnesty herein granted and mandated shall be effective for the period from August 1, 2001 to November 30, 2001

Section 6. This Ordinance shall take effect on the date mentioned in Section 5, hereof.

APPROVED, this 18th day of July 2001, at Pasig City

HON. FORTUNATO G. CO, JR.
Councilor

HON. ROBERT C. EUSEBIO
Councilor

HON. JOSE S. TATCO, JR.
Councilor

HON. ROSALIO B. MARTIRES
Councilor

HON. REYNALDO R. SAN
BUENAVENTURA III
Councilor

HON. REYNALDO F. RAYMUNDO
Councilor

HON. ALEJANDRO E. SANTIAGO
Councilor

HON. CHARMIE Q. BENAVIDES
Councilor

HON. GREGORIO P. RUPISAN, JR.
Councilor

HON. AQUILINO S. DELA CRUZ
Councilor

HON. ROLANDO C. SAMBEL
Liga President

HON. MACARIO C. CRUZ
Councilor

HON. XAVIER M. GARCIA
SK President

HON. LORNA A. BERNARDO
Councilor
Majority Floor Leader

Attested:

HON. LORNA A. BERNARDO
City Vice Mayor
Presiding Officer

APPROVED:

HON. SOLEDAD C. EUSEBIO
City Mayor

Attested:

ATTY. HERMENEGILDO C. CRUZ
City Council Secretary

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Agrarian Reform
Foreign-Assisted Projects Office
CENTRAL PROJECT OFFICE



INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND BID

The Government of the Philippines, through the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), has received an ODA Loan from JAPAN BANK FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION (hereinafter referred to as JBIC) towards the cost of Agrarian Reform Infrastructure Support Project - Phase II (ARISP II), and intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of the loan to payments under the contract for procurement of equipment.

The DAR, Foreign-Assisted Projects Office (FAPSO), Pre-qualifications, Bids and Award Committee is inviting contractors to pre-qualify and bid for computers and accessories under one (1) lot only, as follows:

- 80 units of desktop personal computer
- 80 units of color printer
- 80 units of computer table
- 20 units of scanner

JBIC requires that bidders and contractors, as well as the Government of the Philippines-Department of Agrarian Reform, under contracts funded with JBIC ODA Loans and other Japanese ODA, observe the highest standard of ethics during the procurement and execution of such contracts. In pursuance of this policy, JBIC:

1. will reject a proposal for award if it determines that the bidder recommended for award has engaged in corrupt or fraudulent practices in competing for the contract in question;
2. will recognize a contractor as ineligible, for a period determined by JBIC, to be awarded a contract funded with JBIC ODA Loans if it at any time determines that the contractor has engaged in corrupt or fraudulent practices in competing for, or in executing, another contract funded with JBIC ODA Loans or other Japanese ODA.

Interested eligible parties are invited to pre-qualify and to submit sealed bids using Two Envelope System.

- Pre-qualification documents and technical specifications of the units shall be available for issuance on July 30 - August 3, 2001.
- Closing date and time for submission of duly accomplished Pre-qualification documents shall be on August 10, 2001, 5:00 P.M. Manila time.
- Letter of Notice to Bidders shall be issued on August 23-24, 2001.
- Bid documents shall be issued to Pre-qualified Bidders on August 27-31, 2001 upon presentation of a valid Pre-qualification Letter and payment of a non-refundable fee of P1,000.
- Closing date and time of submission of bids is September 7, 2001 at 9:00 A.M. Technical Proposals shall be opened in the presence of participating bidders on the same day at 9:30 A.M.
- Notice to Complying Bidders shall be on September 20-21, 2001.
- Opening of Financial Proposals in the presence of qualified bidders shall be on September 25, 2001, 9:30 A.M.

All documents pertaining to the tender are available at DAR-FAPSO, Administrative Unit, 2nd Floor, FAPSO Building, Department of Agrarian Reform, Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City.

The DAR reserves the right to reject any bids or all bids without offering any reason, waive any defect therein, and accept the offer most advantageous to the Government.

(Sgd.) JOSE MARIE B. PONCE
Assistant Secretary, SSO and
Executive Director, FAPSO

(PFI - July 28 & 29, 2001)

LOOKING FOR PROPERTY TO SELL

The Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission - Project Management Office is currently looking for a 5-hectare property for its proposed Septage Treatment Plant project. Among others, the property should meet the following criteria:

- Within Metro Manila
- Accessible to any major road/s
- Close to drainage line, creek or river
- Absence of informal settlers (squatters)
- Minimal/no reclamation requirement
- Minimal/no site development requirement
- Relative distance from residential areas

Interested property owners should send their sealed documents, together with the lot plan, vicinity map and price proposals, not later than August 3, 2001 to:



The Executive Director
Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission
4F PMS Building, Arlegui Street
San Miguel, Manila

LAND BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES

Official Depository Bank of the Republic of the Philippines

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND TO BID

All corporations registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), with extensive experience in the supply and installation of Structured Cabling for high rise office buildings, are invited to apply for pre-qualification and bidding of Contract Package 368 for the new LBP HQ Building in Ermita, Manila, with the following schedule:

Project Title	Project Cost	Pre-qualification Form Due	Pre-qualification Conference Date	Pre-Bid Conference Date	Bidding Date
Contract Package No. 368: Supply and Installation of Horizontal Structural Cabling	Php 29.0 Million	August 1, 2001 9:00-10:00 A.M. to 2:30 P.M.	August 15, 2001	August 22, 2001 9:00-10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.	August 27, 2001 9:00-10:00 A.M.

All interested contractors may obtain the Pre-qualification forms from the Project Management Engineering Department (PMED), 2F LBP Bldg. 3, 315 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City, upon payment of a non-refundable processing fee of P1,000.00.

Duly accomplished pre-qualification forms shall be submitted to and received at the above-stated office not later than 5:00 P.M. August 6, 2001 after which no documents will be accepted. All participating contractors shall be notified in writing of the results of the pre-qualification.

Only pre-qualified contractors may secure Bid Documents at the TMG Office located at 3F LBP Bldg. 2, 315 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P3,500.00.

Pre-bid conference will be held on the above-stated date and time at the FMGSG Conference Room, 2nd Flr, LBP Building 3, 315 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City.

Bidding shall be conducted using the two (2) sealed envelope system (envelopes "A" & "B") to be submitted to and received not later than 10:00 AM September 3, 2001 (the Bidding Date), after which no envelopes will be received. Bidding shall be held at the FMGSG Conference Room, 2F LBP Bldg. 1B, 315 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City.

LBP reserves the right to change the date of issuance of bid documents, pre-bid conference and the bidding date. Due notice of changes shall however be communicated by LBP to pre-qualified bidders.

LBP likewise reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or informality, assume no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expense or loss that they may incur in the preparation of their bid, and to accept the bid most advantageous to the Bank.

(Sgd.) ANTONIO T. HERNANDEZ
Chairman
Sub-Committee for LBP HQ Bldg Project

(PFI - July 27, 28 & 29, 2001)



PNOG COAL CORPORATION

Building 2, Energy Center, Merrill Road,
Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila
Telephone Nos. 893-1320/893-6001 local 2208 & 4332
Fax No. (832) 840-1572

INVITATION TO BID

The PNOG Coal Corporation (PCC) invites prequalified/accrued contractors to submit sealed bids for the:

HAULING OF COAL FROM BATANGAS COAL TERMINAL TO VARIOUS CUSTOMERS (CN 01-002)

Bid documents may be secured from the Administrative Department (c/o Mr. George N. Alejandro) starting August 1, 2001 upon payment of a non-refundable fee of PESOS: Five Hundred (P500.00).

Sealed bids in two (2) sets shall be received by the Administrative Department not later than 2:00 o'clock p.m. of August 17, 2001 and then publicly opened at 2:30 p.m. of the same date at the above address.

For the purpose of clarifying certain issues, a pre-bid conference will be held on August 9, 2001, 2:00 p.m. at the PNOG-CC Conference Room, Bldg. 2, Ft. Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila.

PCC reserves the right to reject any or all bids or parts thereof, to waive any informality therein, or to accept such bids or to award any part of the work to any bidder whose bids is/are considered most advantageous to PCC.

(Sgd.) NESTOR V. MORASA
Chairman
Bidding and Award Committee

(PFI - July 25, 2001)



PNOG COAL CORPORATION

Building 2, Energy Center, Merrill Road,
Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila
Telephone Nos. 893-1320/893-6001 local 2208 & 4332
Fax No. (832) 840-1572

INVITATION TO BID

The PNOG Coal Corporation (PCC) invites prequalified/accrued contractors to submit sealed bids for the:

ON-CALL HANDLING SERVICES FOR PCC PORO COAL TERMINAL (PPC-00-010B2)

Bid documents may be secured from the Administrative Department (c/o Mr. George N. Alejandro) starting August 1, 2001 upon payment of a non-refundable fee of PESOS: Five Hundred (P500.00).

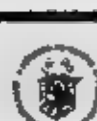
Sealed bids in two (2) sets shall be received by the Administrative Department not later than 2:00 o'clock p.m. of August 10, 2001 and then publicly opened at 2:30 p.m. of the same date at the above address.

For the purpose of clarifying certain issues, a pre-bid conference will be held on August 7, 2001, 2:00 p.m. at the PNOG-CC Conference Room, Bldg. 2, Ft. Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila.

PCC reserves the right to reject any or all bids or parts thereof, to waive any informality therein, or to accept such bids or to award any part of the work to any bidder whose bids is/are considered most advantageous to PCC.

(Sgd.) NESTOR V. MORASA
Chairman
Bidding and Award Committee

(PFI - July 28, 2001)



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON, KULTURA AT SPORTS
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORTS
Pasig City, Philippines

Invitation for Bids

The Government of the Republic of the Philippines has entered into Loan Agreement 4335 with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) in various countries for the financing of the Social Expenditure Management Project (SEMP). In a related part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to equip payments under the following contracts for supply and delivery of school furniture to public elementary and secondary schools in the country:

Location	Elementary School Furniture	Secondary School Furniture
Region I	Lot 1 (561)	Lot 2 (3,322)
Region II	Lot 3 (16,547)	Lot 4 (6,151)
Region III	Lot 5 (2,078)	Lot 6 (5,637)
Region IV	Lot 7 (20,351)	Lot 8 (16,059)
Region V	Lot 9 (3,421)	Lot 10 (8,748)
Region VI	Lot 11 (15,528)	Lot 12 (13,501)
Region VII	Lot 13 (6,141)	Lot 14 (11,055)
Region VIII	Lot 15 (6,141)	Lot 16 (7,489)
Region IX	Lot 17 (9,939)	Lot 18 (5,382)
Region X	Lot 19 (2,249)	Lot 20 (5,249)
Region XI	Lot 21 (14,422)	Lot 22 (8,544)
Region XII	Lot 23 (8,411)	Lot 24 (8,539)
CAVAGA	Lot 25 (5,056)	Lot 26 (5,056)
MCR	Lot 27 (15,242)	Lot 28 (19,727)

2. The Department of Education, Culture and Sports through the DECS SAC (Bids and Awards Committee) now invites select bids from eligible bidders for the supply and delivery of school furniture to public elementary and secondary schools in the country.

3. For the purpose of this bid, eligible bidders shall be those who have experience in the supply or selling and delivery of school furniture to public elementary and secondary schools in the country.

4. Bidders must be registered with the Philippine Contractors Association (PCA) and must be a member of the Philippine Contractors Association (PCA).

5. Bidders must be registered with the Philippine Contractors Association (PCA) and must be a member of the Philippine Contractors Association (PCA).

6. Bidders must be registered with the Philippine Contractors Association (PCA) and must be a member of the Philippine Contractors Association (PCA).

7. Sealed bids, together with the bid security of not less than two and one half percent (2.5%) of the total bid amount must be delivered to the Bureau of Education, Pasig City, DECS Complex, Maricao Avenue, Pasig City, Philippines, not later than August 1, 2001.

8. Bids will be opened in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend at 10:00 AM on September 11, 2001 at the Bureau of Education, Pasig City, DECS Complex, Maricao Avenue, Pasig City.

9. Prior to Bid Opening, a Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the address stated in paragraph 8 at 10:00 AM on August 21, 2001.

10. The BAC-FAP reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality therein and award the contract to one or more bidders.

(Sgd.) EMBERTO S. PANGLAN
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee
Foreign Assisted Projects (BAC-FAPs)

(PFI - July 27, 28 & 29, 2001)



Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas

MAYILA, PHILIPPINES
GOVERNMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND TO BID

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) will conduct a prequalification of prospective bidders for the supply, delivery, installation and commissioning of four (4) units of Diesel New Precision Type Air-Conditioning Equipment with the following specifications:

Refrigeration Type	S
Max Capacity: MBH at 75°F DB/67°F WB	53.4
Electrical Characteristics	400 VAC, 3 phase, 60Hz
Refrigerant	refrigerant R22 or R-410a
Design System	Air Cooled System

For prequalification purposes, interested suppliers are required to submit to the Government Control Committee the following documents:

1. Articles of Incorporation and Business Registration Papers;
2. 2000 Audited Financial Statement (Balance Sheet & Income Statement) - minimum working capital of P1.0 million and a minimum of P2.0 million and 2000 Income Tax Return;
3. Company History and corporate structure;
4. ISO 9000 certificate or equivalent;
5. Certification as to the number of years offering these services;
6. Reference list of successful installations (complete with contact name, address and telephone number); and
7. Two (2) sets original product brochures.

Only those who successfully with the above requirements and are prequalified by the Bank will be invited to participate in the bid opening which will be conducted on a later date to be advised in the prequalified pages.

The two envelope system shall be adopted in the bidding.

For guidelines, please contact the Manager, Procurement Division II, Administrative Services Department, P.O. Box 212, 2nd Floor, 5-story Building, Tel. No. 523-1531.

The BSP hereby reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any defect or informality in such bids, and to accept such bids as may be considered most advantageous to the Bank.

(Sgd.) EDUARDO L. BAGANES
Office-in-Charge
Administrative Services Department

(PFI - July 23, 2001)



National Power Corporation

INVITATION TO BID FOR THE SALE OF UNSERVICEABLE ITEMS

"AS IS, WHERE IS"

DATE AND TIME OF BIDDING: AUGUST 16, 2001 AT 2:00 PM

The National Power Corporation, Genco-6 and Transco-South invites interested parties to bid on various unserviceable/scrap items and junked vehicles listed below:

Lot# Description of Unserviceable Items Location Appraised Value

1. Scrap Materials and equipment composed of: Lineman's tools and equipment, steel structures, spare parts, aircon units, gals, wires, steel drums, used tires, batteries-automotive, Ford Truck, Plate # SBB-721, Jeep, Owner type, Plate # SAF-421 (Details in the I & I Reports) PB-2 BIÑAN S/S P 85,000.00/Lot

2. One (1) Lot Scrap materials composed of: 105 pieces used tires, 1 unit facsimile transceiver-Hitachi, 1 unit PC/XT Hyundai, 1 unit monitor, Hyundai, more or less 33000 kgs. used steel structures, spacers, damper vibrations & galvanized wires. PB-1 GUMACA S/S 85,000.00/Lot

3. One (1) Lot Scrap materials composed of: 52 pieces assorted station batteries, 22 pieces steel plate corrugated, 1 unit Ford Truck, Plate No. SBB-752, 2 pcs. chainsaw, 1 each floor polisher, chair executive swivel, shovel straight, shovel spoon, bila stationary airpot, 2 PCs flashlights, 2 roll rope 3/8" and 5/8" dia., 1 each water jug, container plastic, carburandum stone, gloves, clamps, monitor Hyundai, PIC XT, 2 pieces bolt cutters. PB-1 LABO S/S 19,600.00/Lot

4. One (1) Lot Scrap materials composed of: 1 unit AUV Station-Plate # SBY 736, 1 unit Toyota, Corona-Plate # DEJ-971 88 pieces automotive batteries, 154 pieces assorted used tires, 23 pieces assorted transformers, more or less 1800 kgs. Scrap items, 2 pieces chairs, executive, 1 piece steel cabinet. PB-1 DARAGA S/A 17,350.00/Lot

5. One (1) Lot Scrap materials composed of: 53 pieces assorted used tires, 35 pieces assorted used batteries-automotive, 36 pcs. assorted used batteries - Industrials, 3 sets pole climber, 2 pieces hoist coiling, 2 pieces radio mobile, each snatch block, hydraulic cutter, water pump, 2 pieces chair executive, 1 each shovel, calculator - casio, desk top controller, radio motorola, fire extinguisher, scale flatiron, 2 units typewriters, 1 calcul Nelsom-Scepter, machine drafting, genset, clamp C, drill bit, ladder alum., radio porta, welding & cutting outfit, water pump, aircon split type, stove gas. PB-1 SORSOGON S/S 12,400.00/Lot

6. One (1) Lot Scrap Materials composed of: Approximately 1,105 tons used and scrap pieces, elbows, pump EMSCO-D-500 trailer mounted with 1 set air compressor, 1 unit engine, 1 set pump, 745 pieces used tires, 1 pc drilling water cement tank, 10 pieces automotive batteries, assorted waste consist of: hose gauges, element pressures, temperatures, clock kister, fan hubs, shaft gears, reducers, coupling, bearing, helical gear-more or less 500 kgs. PB-1 PGJ-TGPP 2,779,000.00/Lot

7. One (1) Lot Used/Spent Batteries composed of: 106 pieces-assorted brand/sizes PB-1 PGJ-Makban 3,240.00/Lot

8. One (1) Lot Junked/Scrap items composed of: 1 unit Mazda Van Plate # SDJ-832, 1 set socket wrench, 1 unit multi tester analog, 11 pieces airpot, electric-assorted, 1 ea. Overhead projector, camera, welding machine, 10 pieces calculators-assortd., 5 PCs bundy clocks, 2 units printers - 2170, 1 ea. Fluke, vacuum cleaner, white board, 2 ea. grinder, chain block, helmet welding, 1 ea. Plasma cutter, helmet motorized air filter, gauge protector, 6 units printer - LQ - 1170, 1 unit vacuum portable, gauge manifold, 2 PCs jackhammers, 1 ea. pressure calibrator, welding machine inverter spectrophotometer compartment, stirrer coning, chain block 3 t cap, cabinet filing, 12 PCs CPU, assortd., 7 PCs monitors, 11 PCs keyboards, 18 PCs mouse, 1 ea. desktop printer, w-meter, electric stove, cap-acetylen, 10 pieces punchers, 3 PCs staplers, 2 pieces sharpeners, 1 disk bank, 18 pieces flashlights rechargeable, 1 electric planer 2 PCs engine motors, 54 PCs auto-batteries, 356 pieces tires, 27 PCs tires w/ rims, 2500 kgs. scraps parts, etc., 117 kgs. magnetic wires, 38 assorted cylinder for fire extinguishers, 13 units aircon units, 3 units refrigerators, 3 washing machines, 1 ea. welding machine, water destiller, dish washer, damper/alster and gas range PB-1 BACMAN GPP 82,700.00/Lot

9. One (1) Lot Scrap Materials composed of: nitrogen cylinder tanks - 28 pieces, tires, outer casing - 47 pieces, industrial batteries - 87 pieces, distribution transformer - 3 pieces, assorted scraps - vehicles parts, g.l. sheets, engine motors, etc. more or less 3500 kgs. turbine parts - 200 kgs., chairs, 63 PCs, bed folding - 18 pieces, coil rollers - 2 pieces, 1 ea. Computer, monitor, mountain mtn., jack ram, polisher, radio, metal low band mobile, & 2 pieces aircon units PB-1 CHEP & BHEP 46,400.00/Lot

Bid in the prescribed form shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope and shall be received until 12:00 noon of August 16, 2001 and be opened simultaneously at exactly 2:00 p.m. All bids must be submitted at NPC-SLRG Main Office, San Vicente, Biñan, Laguna, Area III Office, Daraga Sub-Area, Daraga, Albay and TGPP Admin Office, Tawi, Albay with the following:

1. Bidder's bond in the form of Cash, Manager's Check, 5% of the total bid price.
2. Latest Income Tax Return and/or Financial Statement of the Company.

Additional information such as request for inspection and bid form may be obtained from SLRG Main Office with Telephone Nos. 049-4115822. Payment of prescribed form and other particulars is P50.00 per set which is not refundable.

The Corporation reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive informality found therein and accept offers most advantageous to NPC.

(Sgd.) R. D. RAMAS
Manager, Administration &
Chairman, RAMSUC-SLRG

(PFI - July 28, 2001)

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People, Events & Products

ARIS B. ESPINOSA, Assistant Editor

aespinoas@inquirer.com.ph

IBM breaks barriers between Linux and Unix with AIX 5L

IBM announced AIX 5L, the next generation in Unix operating systems. Specifically aimed at Linux applications, AIX 5L provides the industry's premier environment for building and managing both Unix and Linux applications, providing a substantial advantage over closed, proprietary systems.

AIX 5L boasts powerful new features, designed to enable customers to safely and rapidly grow their infrastructure with enhanced automated management tools and concurrent operation of 32- and 64-bit applications.

"AIX 5L builds on the solid foundation set by AIX to address customers' demands for more open computing solutions including multi-platform support and the ability to run Linux applications in a safe, high performance environment," said Sandra Arnaiz-Yuhico, pSeries marketing manager, IBM Philippines.

"With AIX 5L, IBM establishes AIX as the first choice for companies evaluating Linux applications for use in enterprise environments."

With this release, AIX gains

APIs (application programming interface) and header files that allow popular Linux applications to run on AIX with simple recompilation. Because the applications are running on AIX, customers are able to combine the flexibility of Linux with the advanced scalability, security and systems management inherent in AIX. Also available with AIX 5L is the AIX Toolbox for Linux applications. The toolbox is a collection of over 200 open source tools and applications, which together provide the development environment of choice for many Linux developers.

"AIX 5L allows customers to run the software they want on the server they want without sacrificing an ounce of scalability, manageability or performance," Yuhico added. "Our competitors have been doing a lot of talking about future Linux compatibility and support for the latest platform solutions, but AIX is actually delivering."

With this release, AIX strengthens its leadership position in

systems management with new tools to automate and simplify monitoring and control of complex systems. New tools built into AIX's sophisticated Workload Manager (WLM) include the addition of an API allowing external applications to modify system behavior. This important feature provides greater flexibility to customers in choosing their management environment. New accounting tools in WLM allow administrators to cost-effectively grow their infrastructure by tracking resource usage. Workload manager is easily accessible via AIX's web-based system manager, which sports an intuitive, easy-to-use interface.

Great strides have been made in the area of automated systems management with the addition of Reliable Scalable Cluster Technology (RSCT). Harnessing the robust self-management capabilities available in IBM's powerful RS/6000 SP systems, RSCT allows monitoring and control of system resources and events either automatically by the system or by an administrator.



ABS-CBN SUPPORTS FRENCH EMBASSY PROJECT

ABS-CBN Broadcasting was one of the partners of the French Embassy's 'French Spring in Manila' project. The month-long cultural festival featured the best of French music, dance, cinema and visual arts in a series of activities in Manila. ABS-CBN was requested to assist in the promotion of the festival through the coverage of Channel 2 and its UHF channel, Studio 23 of the different 'French Spring in Manila' events. Present during the signing of the memorandum of agreement between ABS-CBN and the French Embassy were (seated, from left) PR officer for cultural affairs Martin Macalintal, Studio 23 chief finance officer Jun Penaranda, ABS-CBN president and COO Federico M. Garcia, and the French Embassy's counselor for cooperation and cultural affairs Franck Hebert. In the background were (from left) Creative Synergy assistant Bernard Miranda, cultural affairs officer Lila Valera, Studio 23 marketing director Rica Dalmacion, Creative Synergy director Zita Aragon and AVP for government affairs Maloi Manalastas.



PHILIPPINES ONLINE FORMS PARTNERSHIP

Philippines Online, a local internet service provider and Microwarehouse, a leading distributor for USB modems and palm pilots, formed a partnership for an Internet Bundling promo. From May 1 until July 31, Microwarehouse clients can get free Internet access from Philippines Online for every purchase of US Robotic Modems and Palm Pilots. Signing the agreement are (from left) Kathy Rosal, Jayson Yu, Philippines Online VP for sales and marketing and Hedge M. Nava, product manager for US Robotic Modem. For more information, call 411-4566 or visit www.phillonline.com

New engine treatment offers 7-in-1 advantage

THERE's a big reason for motorists to rejoice these days. The Uniq Engine Treatment formula is now available in the Philippine market. This engine treatment formula from the United States can outperform all leading oil additives and engine treatment brands in the market worldwide.

The Uniq Engine Treatment formula works by adhering to the metal surface, penetrates the internal parts of the engine and becomes an integral part of the engine alloy, thus eliminating metal-to-metal friction -- a superior antidote to engine wear caused by extreme heat pressure resulting from friction. The results are fuel economy of up to 30 percent; engine wear reduction of up to 40 percent; increase in engine power and performance up to 30 percent; smoother engine operation; easy starting even in cold weather; harmful emission control from 5 to 20 percent; engine friction reduction up to 800 percent; operating temperature reduction up to 40 percent; oil viscosity improvement up to 60 percent; and engine maintenance savings from 200 to 400 percent.

Early birds who witnessed the incredible

friction test performance of Uniq Engine Treatment in the TranShow 2001 at the SM Megatrade Hall in Mandaluyong City were simply amazed at how this newly introduced engine treatment could outperform such leading brands in the market. Based on actual friction tests conducted on 1/2 HP x 300 rpm friction tester, Uniq Engine Treatment registered 350 ft. lbs, while the closest brands could only attain as much as 77 ft. lbs.

Uniq Engine Treatment is engineered, tested and proven in the United States. It is highly recommended for all types of mechanical and internal combustion engines. It is environmentally friendly and contains no pte (or teflon), molybdenum, graphite, silicon, sulfur and other harmful chemicals and is available in 240 ml bottles -- good for a 4- to 6-liter engine.

Uniq Engine Treatment is exclusively distributed by Bizcom International Corporation (e-mail: bizcom@skyinet.net) and is now available in leading auto supplies, supermarkets and gas stations. The Uniq treatment is brought to the Philippines by Uniqpoint Marketing.



DISASTER MANUAL FROM J & J

Philippine Pediatric Society president Dr. Carmelo A. Afiller explains the contents of 'Helping the Children -- A Practical Handbook for Complex Humanitarian Emergencies', which Johnson and Johnson Philippines, Johnson and Johnson Medical Philippines, and Janssen Pharmaceutica donated to the Philippine Pediatric Society and 18 other governments and non-governmental organizations involved in caring for children in disasters and emergencies. Afiller thanked Johnson and Johnson for its continuing involvement with PPS in improving child care in the Philippines.



NESTLE WORKSHOP FOR SPOUSES

In cooperation with Technical Education Skills and Development Authority (Tesda), the Nestle Cebuano Factory recently concluded a set of seminars teaching entrepreneurial skills to the spouses of employees. The workshop included: preventive car maintenance, meat processing, basic baking, culinary workshop, dressmaking and hair science and body massage.



VICTORY PARTY FOR SENATOR

Newly elected Senator Francisco 'Kiko' Pangilinan was recently treated by his La Salle Greenhill high school batch to a victory party at newly opened Brubeck Bistro in BF Homes. Attended by almost a hundred batchmates from the class of '81, the victory party doubled as an impromptu class reunion. Greg Banzon, the young general manager of Johnson and Johnson Indonesia and proprietor of Brubeck Bistro, served as host while Budweiser Beer sponsored by donating 10 cases of beer. Among the attendees were fashion model and businessman, Momon Gonzales, dental pediatrician, Dr. Michael Wassmer, media executive, Inquirer, top banker Andy Navarrete and up-and-coming restaurateur, Filbert Alquiros.



Project management seminars

THE ATENEO Center for Continuing Education will hold seminars on Project Management -- World Class Contracting (Aug. 1, 2, and 3), Managing Smaller Projects (Aug. 6 and 7), Project Risk Management (Aug. 17 and 18) and Project Management Essentials (Aug. 24 and 25) at its Salcedo Campus. For more details and registration, call Lorraine at 830-2050 or 830-2040 or e-mail cce-aib@aps.ateneo.edu.

Gozon Magna Cum Laude



GOZON

Psychology Maritess was a consistent scholar during her college days and served as councilor for the University Student Council. She has also been inducted as member of both Pi Gamma Mu and Phi Kappa Phi International Honor Societies. Maritess graduated as the valedictorian of her class in both grade school and high school at the Colegio San Agustin, Makati. She was also one of Makati's Ten Outstanding Students for 1997. Maritess, who is currently one of Love 14's Manila's Five Loveliest, is now in med school.

Fun weekend at Eastwood City walk

EASTWOOD Property Holdings Inc. is putting together an activity-laden, fun-filled weekend dubbed as "Family Fun Fair @ Eastwood City Walk" in Eastwood City, Libis. The event will be held at the Eastwood City Walk Water Plaza on July 28 and 29, Saturday and Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. The whole family gets to participate in an array of games, kiddie shows, musical, tricks and interesting activities set amid the neo-urban landscape of Eastwood City Walk. Prizes are courtesy of Citibank, Skyline and Little Tikes.



GLOBE TEL TELHOLDERS MALL TOUR

Globe Telecom, the telephone service of Globe Telecom, recently held a successful mall tour for its 1-900-TXT and Net Express services at the Edsa Mall of Glorietta. The Globe Telecom mall tour -- where mall-goers were able to try for free landline texting using 1-900-TXT and Internet surfing through Net Express -- helped the public become more aware of the benefits and advantages of the innovative services. The Globe Telecom booth, shown above, also accepted applications for Globe Telecom services and features. Visitors to the Globe Telecom booth were also treated to free fortune telling sessions, highlighting the horoscope information service feature of the 1-900-TXT service. The recent mall tour at the Glorietta is part of a series of mall tours that Globe Telecom is currently holding in major malls during weekends.

Philippine Junior Jaycees goes Mindanao

With this year's theme "The Junior Jaycees D.R.E.A.M. (Developing Responsive Empowered and Active Members), the Philippine Junior Jaycees Inc., a youth leadership training organization and a special affiliate of the Philippine Jaycees Inc. with chapters from all over the country, converged on May 26-27 at the Brainlinks Center and All Asia Life conference room in Cagayan de Oro City for this year's first national board meeting hosted by the Metro Cagayan Junior Jaycees. The National Board will convene again for the second national board meeting hosted by the Carmona "Sorteo" Junior Jaycees in August 2001. For more information about the organization, call the National PRO JJC Owen Jaen at 0917-4819963 or e-mail him at kuyaw@lingaw.com

Philips X-treme shots winners

PHILIPS Consumer Electronics recently announced the winners of the Philips X-treme Shots Photo Contest. The contest was part of Philips X-Rage, the explosive extreme games festival recently held at the Fort Summer Camp. Leading the roster of winning lensmen in the published photo category are Revoli Cortez (1st), Ramon Esguerra (2nd), and Ernesto Mandoza (3rd). For the published photo category, the winners are Dewey Sergio (1st), JPeter Obligation (2nd) and Luis Naguit (3rd). The winning photos are on showcase from July 20 to Aug. 1 at the third level Bridgeway, SM Megamall.

Bask in the grandeur of a 15-hectare park

Take in the
splendor of a
majestic tree grove
with thousands
of trees.

Go fishing
in total peace
and quiet on a
tranquil lagoon.

Enjoy a leisurely
hike or jog along
a 2.5-kilometer
nature trail

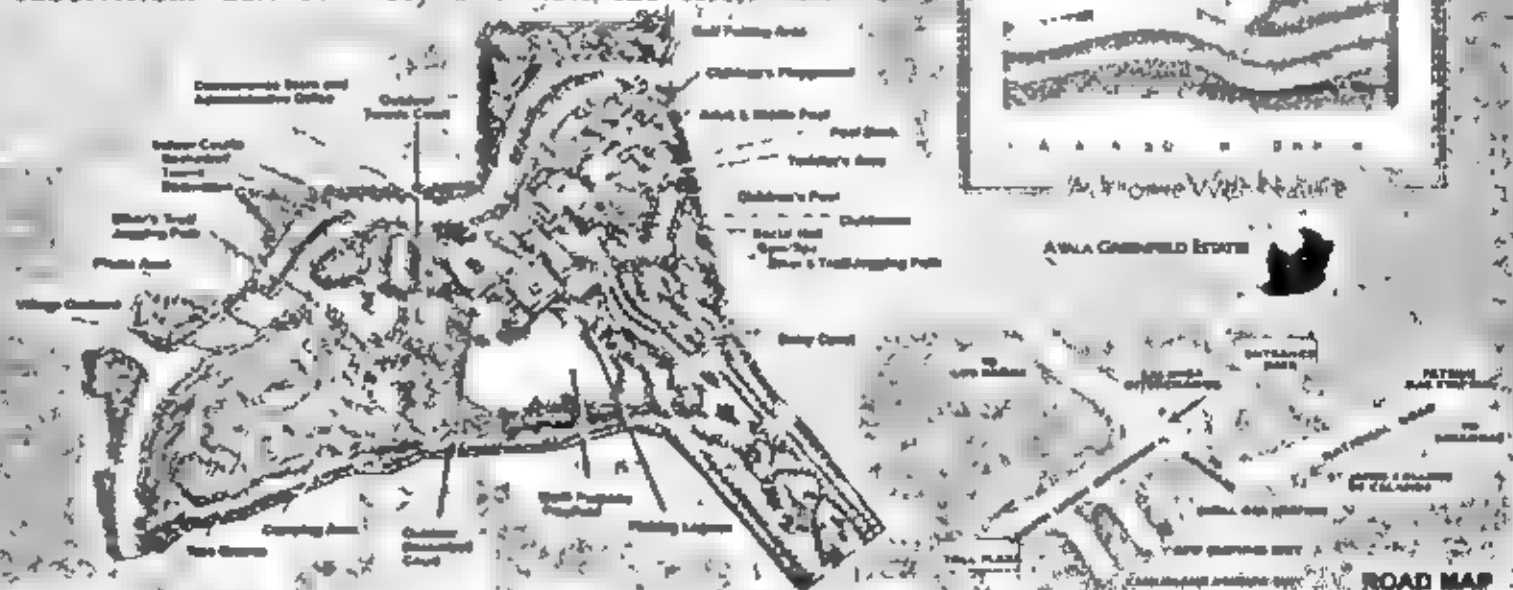
Marvel at the
winged wildlife
soaring free
around the
nature park

only in Ayala Greenfield Estates.

The subdivision of your dreams is coming to life at Ayala Greenfield Estates. For sheer magnificence and magnitude, no other subdivision park comes close to what lies ahead on the 15 hectares of land that will soon be Nature Park.

To put that figure in perspective, consider this: an entire subdivision — of more modest proportions, of course — would fit right into that same area. But at Ayala Greenfield Estates, it's only the park. And what a park it will be, with all the space you'll need to enjoy a host of amenities designed to help you live life to the fullest. Aside from the tree groves, the nature trail, and the lagoon, there will also be a fruit orchard, adult and kiddie pools, a golf putting area, a children's playground, a multi-purpose playfield, and a Locsin-designed clubhouse. All these will help you

experience the intangible benefits of relaxation in communion with nature, right inside your subdivision. Call us today and visit the site.



This subdivision is owned and developed by Ayala Greenfield Development Corporation. For inquiries, please call AYALA LAND, INC., Sales and Marketing Services Group 2/F Tower One, Ayala Triangle, Ayala Avenue, Makati City, Philippines. Contact information: Site Office Tel. No. 850-6953 (Mondays-Sundays), Tel. No. 841-3512 to 26, 848-3331 (Mondays to Fridays), Fax No. 848-3314. E-mail address: mag@ayaland.com.ph. Website: <http://www.ayaland.com.ph>. The particulars, details and visuals shown herein are intended to give a general idea of the project and as such are not to be relied upon as statements of fact. While each particular and detail are based on present plans which have been prepared with utmost care and are given in good faith, buyers are invited to verify their factual correctness and subsequent changes, if any. The contents herein are subject to change without prior notice and do not constitute part of an offer or contract. This advertising is approved and authorized by the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board. HLURB License To Sell No. 00163-R4-00-01, 02968-R4-01-06

Bask in the grandeur of a 15-hectare park

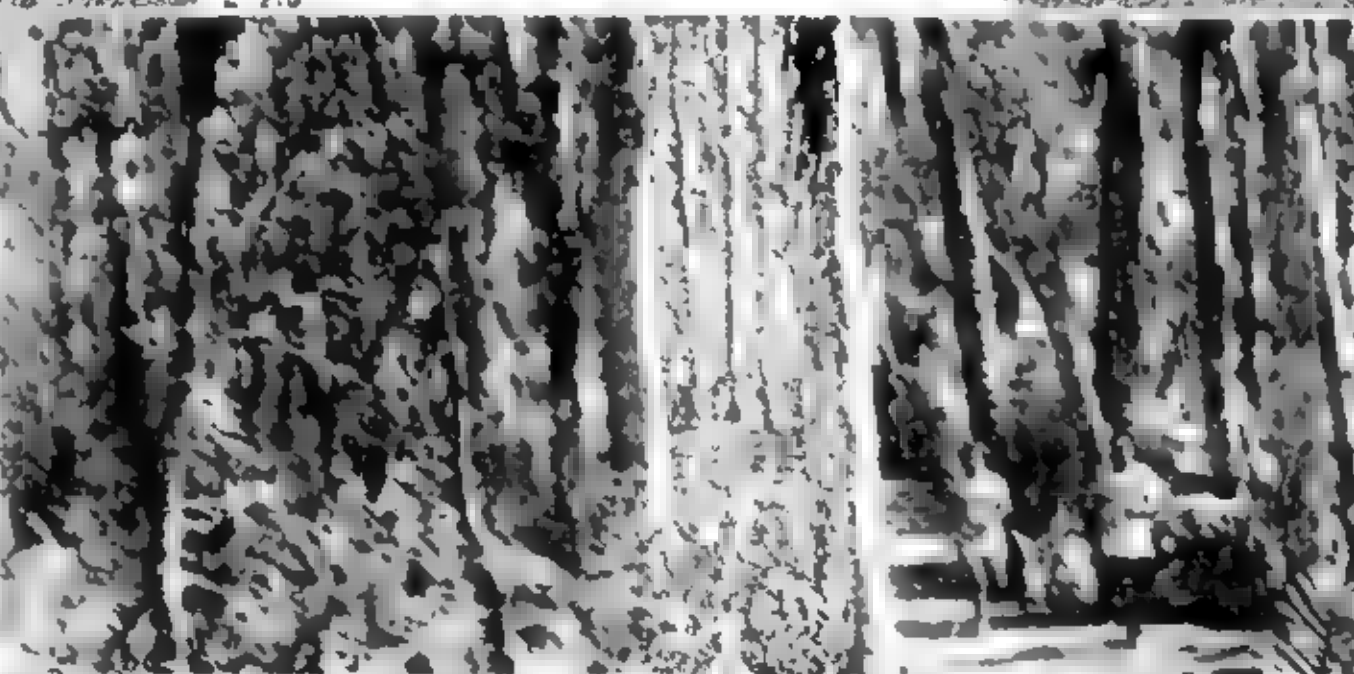
Take in the
splendor of a
majestic tree grove
with thousands
of trees.



Go fishing
in total peace
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tranquil lagoon



Enjoy a leisurely
hike or jog along
a 2.5-kilometer
nature trail



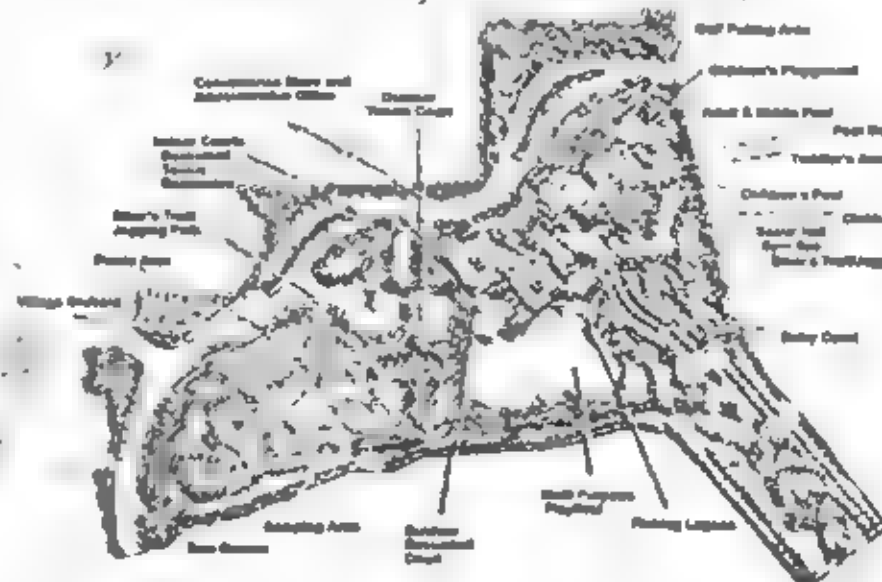
Marvel at the
winged wildlife
soaring free
around the
nature park



only in Ayala Greenfield Estates.

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

CHLOE BANAL-FORMOSO, Editor

Futuristic film inspires restoration of old church

BY RAQUEL P. GOMEZ
PHOTOS BY ROMY HOMILLADA

THE SAN Guillermo Church in Bacolor, Pampanga is unusually small. Churchgoers enter it through the windows of the choir loft instead of the main entrance. The ceiling has been removed to make room for the chandeliers, which hang low from the wooden beams. The small windows on the side of the church are the same level as the pews. The buttresses have shrunk while the big bell in the tower can be reached through a short flight of stairs.

Although reduced to half its original height, the church still draws people to Mass.

The current state of the 300-year-old church is among the many reminders of the rampaging lahar from Mt. Pinatubo.

Up until lahar swept the land, the church, built in 1576 by Augustinian friars, was one of the oldest and largest in Pampanga. A marker placed by the National Historical Institute says it was the headquarters of Gov. Gen. Simon de Anda from Oct. 6, 1762 to May 30, 1764, during the British invasion of Manila when the Spanish seat of power was transferred to Bacolor.

Destroyed in 1995, the church has been under repair for the past five years. Bacolor's 35-year-old parish priest hopes to restore the church to its full glory.

Fr. Nes Tayag did not want to build another church. He chose to make do with what remained of the old one. After all, the church was still functional even though some portions of the structure and the pews were buried in mud.

Restoration of the historical church began when an Australian film company shot a futuristic cafeteria scene under its dome. The gloomy deserted church, according to Father Nes, was the perfect backdrop for the movie "Robo Warriors."

But before they could shoot the scene, the

FUTURISTIC/ p.C2

Once half-buried in lahar, the church has taught Father Nes the real meaning of 'grace'



The MARKS & SPENCER Sale

Ladieswear Menswear Childrenswear and Lingerie

Starts July 28, 2001

Glorietta 4: Sun-Thurs 10AM to 8PM; Fri-Sat 10AM to 9PM

Esperanza Mall: Sun-Thurs 10AM to 8PM; Fri-Sat 10AM to 9PM

Alabang Town Center: Sun-Thurs 10AM to 8PM; Fri-Sat 10AM to 9PM

SM Megamall: Mon-Sun 10AM to 9PM • Robinsons Place Manila: Mon-Sun 10AM to 9PM

Roxas Harrison Plaza: Mon-Sun 10AM to 8PM

Power Plant Mall: Sun-Thurs 10AM to 8PM; Fri-Sat 10AM to 9PM

Ayala Center Cebu: Sun-Thurs 10AM to 8PM; Fri-Sat 10AM to 9PM



WOOD from the church has been transformed into a carving by artist Romy Homillada.

Long-lasting
PINOY
TRAITS



"Going the Extra Mile"

Mahalaga ang samahan sa mga Pinoy. Mapa-barkada o mapa-pamilya, we go the extra mile. Like after washing clothes, ginagamitan natin ng fragrant fabric softener. Pero hindi basta fragrant lang, kailangan may bangong tumatagal ng isang linggo. At iyan ang Vernel Fabric Softener.

This cultural trait is distinct to Filipinos. Like how Vernel is to every Filipino household.

vernel
Fabric Softener

Ang bangong amuyin. Ang sarap yakapin.

Owning a house transforms families



SALUSTIANO Padilla says he can now look forward to a better future for his family, thanks to their Habitat house.

SALUSTIANO Padilla's hands are rough, his fingernails white from laying mortar for the past 16 years as a construction worker. But his voice softens as he recalls how his family's life has changed since they secured a new home.

Padilla's family, who used to live in a rented shanty in a squatters area, now has a new concrete house that boasts of underground drainage. "Nakatutug na kami nang mahimbing," he says with relief. "Malaya na kami sa pangamba ng baha at demolisyon."

The Padilla family is just among thousands around the globe that have been touched by Habitat for Humanity Int'l. (HFHI), a nonprofit organization helping families have a new future through the construction of decent and affordable housing.

Now on its 25th year, HFHI renews its call to end homelessness through World Leaders Build, an event that will take place simultaneously in five continents Aug. 6-11.

At the end of the weeklong event, HFHI in the Philippines intends to dedicate 300 houses to 300 Filipino families in need. "Owning a decent home is often the first step in regaining one's basic dignity and overcoming the cycle of poverty," says

Fernando Zobel de Ayala, chair of the national steering committee of World Leaders Build. The chair of Ayala Land Inc. also sits on the national board of trustees of HFHI.

Government, business and civic leaders have signified their interest to participate in the event. They include Secretary Michael Defensor of the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council; Marixi Prieto, board chair of the Inquirer; Robert Kuan, chair of the board of trustees of St. Luke's Medical Center; and Frank Padilla, national director of Couples for Christ.

Changes

Today, there is no evidence of the life the Padillas used to lead. Paulina, Salustiano's wife, tends her little sari-sari store, no longer worried when her two children—Emalyn and Joshua—go outside to play.

Another HFHI site is Sitio Mendez, a former squatters area in Quezon City that has become a bustling community of 237 homeowner families. "Malaki ang nagbago dito. Naging masipag kaming lahat," says Necita Calub, a 37-year old housewife who also owns a sari-sari store and



"WELCOME to our home."

sells cooked meals. She and her husband now live in a three-bedroom house with their children, aged 16-19.

At Sitio Mendez, a whole community has started to rise from poverty and squalor. There is a renewed sense of purpose now that the families are on the road to acquiring their own houses. The men are gainfully employed and the children attend school.

Salustiano says getting a home is better than receiving money outright or the promise of a new job. He is now busy saving money to expand Paulina's store and perhaps start his own business. He is also setting aside part of his earnings for their children's education.

When President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo kicks off World Leaders Build on Aug. 6 in Pinagay, Rizal, Necita says her family will be there to lend a hand. "Naiutunan namin ang pakikipagkapwa," she explains humbly.

"Tinupad ng Habitat ang niga pangarap namin," she continues, "Gusto naman naming tuparin ang pangarap ng iba."

Habitat for Humanity Phils. is accepting donations and volunteers for World Leaders Build from Aug. 6-11. For more information, contact the World Leaders Build Secretariat at 637-8700 or 638-5362.



All the nutrition mommy wants,
in a yummy-honey taste kids love!



It contains the precise balance of nutrients required for optimal physical and mental development. Dumex 1 Plus now comes in a new honey flavor—another delicious way to give mommy all the nutrition she wants, in yummy-honey taste her toddler would surely love!

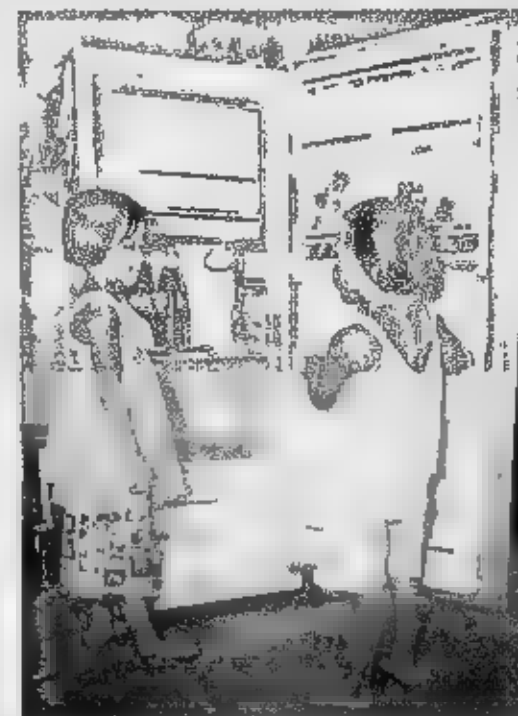
Dumex 1 Plus is specially formulated to give your 1 to 3 year old a healthy foundation to grow up fitter and brighter.



**DUMEX
PRECISION
NUTRITION**
For fitter, brighter champions.



SISTERS Emalyn and Be-Ann playing by their concrete house



BE it ever so humble...



AT LAST, a home with stairs and underground drainage.

PHOTO: SETOY JOHNSON



ICONS on exhibit



Museum to showcase art inspired by faith

THE SAN Agustin Museum opens an exhibit on Russian icons titled "Mary the Theotokos," July 31, 6 p.m.

This is to commemorate the Feast of the Assumption—the taking up of the Virgin Mary's body to heaven—which is also venerated by the Orthodox Church as the Dormition. In a way, the exhibit makes a special appeal for unity between the Eastern and Western Churches.

An icon is to the Christian Orthodox Churches what a statue, a representation of a saint or divinity,

is to the Western Catholic Church. Both speak of faith made visible by which believers experience the presence of the divine mystery.

The San Agustin Museum keeps one of the best collections of ivory and wooden religious statuary in the country.

Annette Ablan lent the icons for the exhibit. Russian Ambassador Anatoli I. Khmelinski will be the guest of honor. Makati Skyline will provide the cocktails, and the Philippine Wine Merchants, the vodka.



OATH TAKING OF NEW CCP OFFICIALS

New officials of the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP) took their oath before Executive Secretary Roberto Romulo (left) on July 20 at the Malacañang Guest House. Sworn in as CCP chair was Baltazar N. Endriga (second from left), and CCP president Nestor O. Jardin (third from left). The new officials vowed to faithfully discharge to the best of their abilities their duties and responsibilities in pursuit of the CCP's goals and objectives, protect and uphold its Charter and bylaws, abide by its Code of Ethics and observe the highest professional, moral and ethical standards. Also in photo are the CCP board of trustees: Tessie Luz, Behn Cervantes, Lina Liton, Ruperto Nodao Jr., Ma. Paz Lagdameo, Patricia Sison and Irma Potenciano.

Eastwood City
presents

FAMILY FUN FAIR

@ Eastwood City Walk

Watch the streets of Eastwood City Walk transform into a spectacle for the whole family. Bring the kids over and treat them to a weekend of street revelry.

Have oodles and oodles of fun with...

- Mesmerizing magic and puppet shows
- Face-painting sessions
- Street performances by mime artists, clowns and puppeteers
- And many more treats and surprises!

PROGRAM

JULY 28 (SAT.) AND JULY 29 (SUN.)

9 am	Kiddie Video; Coloring	Showroom
10 am	Clown	Water Plaza
11 am	Face Painting; Ceramic Painting	Water Plaza
12 nn	Mime Artist; Clowns Restaurant Hopping/Giving away Balloons	City Walk/ Viewing Tower
1 pm	Caricature	Water Plaza
2 pm	Mascot Appearance/Scavenger Hunt/Other Games	Water Plaza/ Viewing Tower
3 pm	Balloon Twisting/Bubble Show	Water Plaza
4 pm	Puppet Show/Magic Show	Water Plaza

FREE ADMISSION

Try our new restaurants now open to delight you.



Eastwood City
Walk

Eastwood City,
E. Rodriguez Jr. Avenue (C-5),
Quezon City.

'Pag walang kagat,
walang dengue!

Para iwasan ang 'dengue', iwasang makagat ng lamiok. With Vaseline Mosquito Repellent Lotion, 'di makakalapit ang lamok, kaya 'di makakagat ang pamilya. At dahil may Triple Lipid Complex, alaga rin ang balat. Ngayong tag-ulan, protektahan ang pamilya sa kagat, para protektado sila sa dengue.

No-squitoes. Yes To Healthy Skin!



When public service is a family affair

SEN. Renato Cayetano always paraphrases the famous words of Ninoy Aquino: "The Filipino is worth dying for." To Cayetano, "The Filipino is worth living for through the good and the hard times."

Unknown to many, Cayetano was already well established in the United States with his American wife, Sandra Schramm, of Ann Arbor, Michigan, when he decided to cast his lot with his home country.

A product of the Filipino dream, Cayetano came from humble beginnings. He is the son of Pedro Cayetano, a mechanic from Marilao, Bulacan, and Juliana Luna, a public school teacher from Pateros.

His parents could only afford to send him to elementary and secondary public schools. But the bright boy, destined to go far, managed to obtain political science and law degrees from the University of the Philippines as a working student.

Through various scholarship grants, he obtained from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, USA, his Master of Public Administration, Master of Laws and Doctor of Laws. With these qualifications, he could have joined the many Filipinos there to take advantage of work opportunities and enjoy the good life in the US.

But upon completion of his advanced schooling, the young Cayetano headed back home, bringing with him his family to realize a lifetime vow to help his countrymen.

Public service has brought him several honors and recognition. In 1998, former President Fide Ramos conferred on him the Legion of Honor; the Philippine Jaycees chose him as TOYM finalist in the field of law. Earlier, the Order of Purple Fraternity of the UP College of Law adopted him as member; the Philippine Jaycees named him as outstanding Jaycee president; and the University of Michigan and Princeton University in United States gave him various grants. He was conferred a doctorate in humanities, *honoris causa*, by Misamis University in 1997.

To expand his public service, Cayetano ran and won a seat as an assemblyman in the Batasan Pambansa, after which he was appointed deputy minister for trade and industry and administrator of the Export Processing Zone Authority, now the Philippine Export Zone Authority.

In 1995, he was appointed chief presidential counsel by former President Ramos. In recognition of his efforts in crime prevention and the improvement of the criminal justice system, he was appointed co-vice chair of the Presidential Anti Crime Commission (PACC).

Sen. Cayetano is a founding partner of the Cayetano, Sebastian, Dado, Ata and Cruz Law Of-



THE SENATOR (standing, center) with (from left) sons Lino, Muntinlupa councilor Ren, Taguig-Pateros Rep. Alan, son-in-law Butch Sebastian; (seated) granddaughter Maxine, wife Sandy, daughter Pia and granddaughter Nadine

fice. He was chair of the House of Delegates and governor of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines. He was the past president of the Rizal chapter of the IBP and the Legal Management Council of the Philippines.

Free legal services

Cayetano has handled many sensational cases, pro bono. These included the Pepsi Paloma rape case, where he served as private prosecutor; the Manila Filmfest scam on behalf of former Mayor Alfredo Lim; and the libel case filed by then President Corason Aquino against columnist Louie Beltran.

The most famous case he handled pro bono was the Vizconde massacre where he served as private prosecutor for Lauro Vizconde. In January 2000, all the accused were found guilty and sentenced to life imprisonment.

To reach as many people as possible, he hosted "Compañero y Compañera," a popular

public service program that offered free legal advice to television viewers and radio listeners.

In May 1998, Cayetano was elected senator, posting the second highest votes. The freshman senator became the chair of the committee of justice and human rights and the vice chair of the committee on public order and illegal drugs. He was also the minority leader in the Commission on Appointments and a member of the Judicial and Bar Council and the BIR Oversight Committee. Before the 11th Congress adjourned on Feb. 9, he assumed the post of the Senate minority floor leader, making him an ex-officio member of all Senate committees.

During his first three years as a lawmaker, Cayetano filed a number of bills and resolutions aimed at speeding up the dispensation of justice for criminal cases and curbing graft and corruption. Through his efforts, the Supreme Court

Despite their diverse preoccupations, Sen. Renato Cayetano and his family get their act together when it comes to serving the people

issued Administrative Order No. 51-96 designating criminal courts in Metro Manila and other cities. These special criminal courts exclusively hear cases involving heinous crimes, the trial of which should be finished in 60 days.

It was also during this time that he showed a special concern for the rights of consumers. Through his Resolution No. 579, he fought for the ban on collection of parking fees by shopping malls. The Senate committee on commerce and industry and the committee on justice on human rights found that collection of parking fees and the provision of waiver of liability stated in parking tickets issued by the malls, are illegal.

The senator authored or co-authored RA 8799 or the Securities Regulation Code, RA 8749 or the Clean Air Act, RA 8792 or the E-Commerce Law, and RA 9006 or the fair elections act.

He is responsible for RA 9048, which prevented the tedious and expensive judicial process to correct clerical and typographical errors in an entry in personal legal documents at the city or municipal registrars. It used to be that interested parties had to hire the services of a lawyer and bear the cost of litigation to correct a wrong entry. RA 9139, which he also authored, provides for the acquisition of Philippine citizenship for certain aliens by administrative naturalization.

Family dream

Meanwhile, his wife and four children feel comfortable and very much at home here.

Sandra Schramm Cayetano, who has stood by the senator through thick and thin, co-owned and co-managed a pre-school known as Ann Arbor Montessori for 19 years. She retired a few years ago and went back to her first love, which is writing and illustrating children's books. She has written around 200 books and has donated thousands of copies of them to Grade 1 pupils of Pateros, Taguig and Muntinlupa public schools.

Fund-raising project

THE CHOSEN Children Village Foundation and the Abot Pangarap Foundation Inc. are embarking on a joint project to help raise much-needed funds for their respective endeavors.

Chosen Children has been providing care for the physically and mentally handicapped and abandoned children in a family-type environment since 1989.

Chosen Children Village in Silang, Cavite was started in 1994 to house and care for those children, many of whom will never be adopted. At present, eight cottages, a school, a physiotherapy center, an administration building and staff house, have been completed. Funding for the continuing construction of this village has been an ongoing project of the Chosen Children Village Foundation.

Abot Pangarap Foundation Inc. has been providing financial assistance for the education of underprivileged children of St. Martin School in Baguio. The unique curriculum of St. Martin School integrates the cultural values and practices of the Cordillera. This combination of education and preservation of an indigenous culture requires tremendous support. At present, the foundation is raising funds for the construction of new classrooms.

In response to these needs, they will hold "The Merry Merchants Bazaar" on Sept. 30 at the Hotel Inter-Continental in Makati. Tickets will be sold at the entrance. Call Cecile Dimapilis at 832-1546, 831-3627 or fax 832-2760.



The Cayetano will be marking their 35th wedding anniversary this year.

Pia, their eldest child and only daughter, is a lawyer-entrepreneur. She is married with three children. Her company is the exclusive distributor of award-winning developmental toys for infants. She owns three infant specialty shops: Maxi-Bear and Just Born, located in Ayala Center, Makati, Festival Mall and Alabang Town Center, and Maxi-

toylab, the country's first and only educational toy store.

Alan Peter, the eldest of the senator's three sons, is on his second term as congressman of the lone district of Taguig-Pateros. He started his political career as the youngest councilor of the country in 1992 when he was elected as No. 1 councilor of Taguig. In 1998, he was elected congressman, the youngest in the 11th Congress. A political

science graduate from UP, he took up law at the Ateneo de Manila University law school.

Ren, the second son, was recently elected councilor in Marikina. Active in sports, he is a former junior golf champion and member of the UP varsity golf team and former assistant coach of the UP Maroons basketball varsity team. He is a UP public administration graduate. He studied e-commerce

at the New York University in New York City. He is presently taking up a master's degree in entrepreneurship at the Asian Institute of Management.

Lino, the youngest, is a film graduate from UP. He recently came back to the Philippines after taking further studies in film and the arts in New York. Among the schools he attended were the School of Visual Arts, NYU and New York

Film Academy. He co-founded Creative Perspective Network, specializing in film and video. He is on his way to becoming a writer-director-cinematographer.

During the impeachment of former President Joseph Estrada, Cayetano was among the 10 senator-judges who courageously voted for the opening of the second envelope, which was opposed by 11 pro-Estrada senator-judges.

What transpired after that is now history.

Now, the Cayetanos of Taguig City are up to bigger things in the way of further serving the people. For one, the senior Cayetano has drawn up a bicameral coalition that would put on top of its agenda the passage of key economic reforms to fast-track the alleviation of poverty and the creation of new jobs.

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Nescafé Frothé and Morning TV give you another chance to get TWO TICKETS to the MTV Video Music Awards in New York.

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Submit entries to PO Box 1696 Makati Central Post Office 1256 Makati City Philippines by August 3, 12 pm. Watch Morning TV for the Announcement of the 4 finalists. The final winner will be on his way with a friend to the MTV Video Music Awards in New York!

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Little-known Cebu town gets on the IT superhighway

BY CONSTANTINO C. TEJERO
PHOTOS BY NOLI TOMACRUZ

SOME 75 km south of Metro Cebu is the town of Dumanjug. It is the only municipality in the province that has information technology facilities, having a Systems Technology Institute branch.

It was just natural then that when the Coca-Cola Co. donated several Pentium III computers for rural students, they were sent to Dumanjug. On July 24, the beverage company inaugurated the Coca-Cola ed.venture center, the first of 15 state-of-the-art, Internet-ready computer laboratories to be set up in selected public high schools in rural areas of the country.

The program was launched in cooperation with the Foundation for Information Technology Education and Development (FIT ED), a nongovernment organization established to "increase IT awareness in the Philippines and contribute to the effort to enable Philippine society in the Information Age."

The school chosen as the first ed.venture site was Bitoon National Vocational High School, with a student population of 1,426 and a teaching and nonteaching staff of 45. The 21 brand-new computers were installed in two days, complete with Internet access and educational software.

The Bitoon school is quite nice with a clean lawn, a new streamlined modern main building of cream and burnt sienna, swayback walls of yellow and old rose with orange railing. Tall narra, tapering Indian trees, swaying betel nut trees, a fruit-laden *bangka* dot the yard.

The first step

On the morning of the computer lab's inauguration, the words "Welcome Visitors" were written in orange, yellow and blue chalk on a blackboard facing the street and placed on top of a staircase. The excited children—the boys wearing white shirts and blue pants and the girls in white blouses and maroon skirts—greeted everyone: "Good morning, visitors!"

They gathered in an inner yard surrounded by *bangka* trees. The air was festive with the Coca-Cola colors, in the red and white bunting, balloons and tents. Students sat and waited under the midday sun in rows of classroom desks frothing an improvised stage canopied in red.

Visitors came in trickles—members of the Cebu media, government officials led by Dumanjug Mayor Cesar Bancuato and Cebu Gov. Pablo Garcia. From Manila came Coca-Cola Phils. president James Harting, FIT ED chair Roberto Romulo, FIT ED program director Luli Macapagal-Arroyo, Education Undersecretary Isagani Cruz.

In less than an hour, the program was over, including the speeches of officials, a folk dance by students, and the signing of the memorandum of agreement. The Coca-Cola ed.venture center was finally launched. This was the first step toward the realization of Harting's dreams.

In his remarks before officials, teachers and students, Harting narrated that during the formal launching of Coca-Cola ed.venture in Malacñang last April, he observed that President Macapagal-Arroyo's office had "a massive computer monitor beside her desk, along with



STUDENTS of Bitoon National Vocational High School experience the magic of global interconnectivity



COCA-COLA Phils. president Jim Harting signs the official turnover documents at the Coca-Cola ed.venture inauguration in Dumanjug.



JIM Harting (standing, center) and DECS Undersecretary Dr. Isagani Cruz (left)

some electronic equipment that certainly looked state-of-the-art."

His thoughts momentarily wandered. "How wonderful it would be, I thought, if all that equipment in the President's office could one day be standard in a public schools in the country, or anywhere in the world for that matter!"

Another dream

Aside from aiming to develop the students' IT skills and further their studies through electronic learning, the project also includes a comprehensive training course for teachers. Coca-Cola has committed an initial P17.5 million to cover the first-year costs, which will benefit some 10,000 students and 500 teachers during the project's first phase.

The President praised the initiative as "an innovative effort to help close the digital gap in our country."

FIT ED will monitor the project, while Coca-Cola will handle the costs of repairs and maintenance of the computer lab for the first six months.

Bitoon school principal Corazon Pumar said that even before the center was inaugurated, she had already made some preparations for the time when the school would be on its own. She said she has approached the mayor and several government officials and asked them to help when the time came.

While President Macapagal-Arroyo in her State of the Nation Address last Monday was



JIM Harting, FIT ED chair Roberto Romulo (right) and FIT ED program director Luli Macapagal-Arroyo (left) watch a student on one of the 21 brand-new Pentium III computers donated by the Coca-Cola Co.

still promising to empower Filipinos through her administration's national IT education policy, a soft drink company and an NGO had already started to turn the dream to reality.

Mayor Bancuato commented that he believed his little town would one day become the center of information technology in that part of Cebu. From what we just witnessed, we know that such a dream could come true.

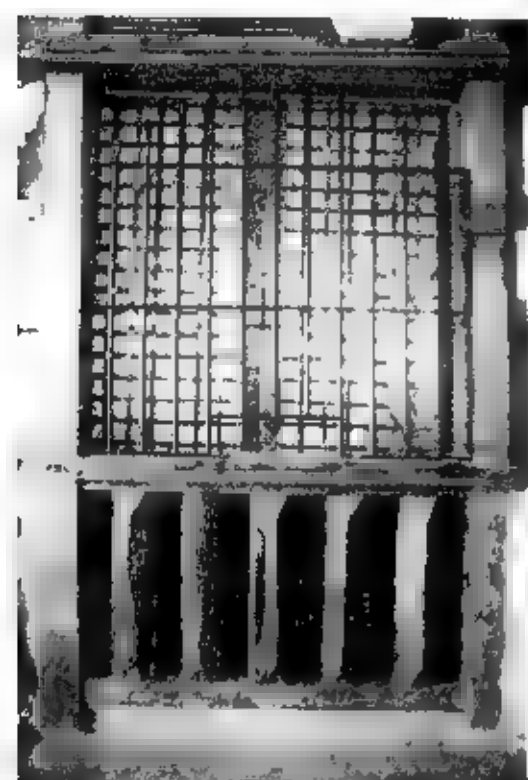
Futuristic film inspires restoration of old church

(From page C1)

filmmakers had to raise and repair the muddy flooring. Father Nes, who had been conducting Mass under an old parachute set up as a tent in the churchyard, had an inspiration as he saw the improvement the foreigners had done.

"We have to save the church because it's a beautiful church," says Father Nes.

Repairs were done by portion as funds trickled in from different parishes in Pampanga and the people who still live in Bacolor. The dome had to undergo a major overhaul as cracks had appeared in the two adobe arches that supported it. Father Nes consulted structural engineers who suggested building another arch at the end of the nave near the altar.



A PORTION of the bala parí. The wood came from the church.



THE ALTAR was dug from the mud.

The new arch, which is similar in appearance to the old ones, is now made of concrete and iron.

A mini dike was built around the church to prevent the mudflow and water from Mt. Pinatubo from entering every time it rained. Father Nes points to a landscaped churchyard. "That was not intended for a garden or a courtyard. That area was raised to become a mini dike."

The priest had the wooden ceilings of the church removed, exposing the original adobe wall and antique wood beams, which added character to the old church. But ventilation in the church was not enough so Father Nes had

small windows built in the roof. He also had the roof covered with insulation material from the inside. "We still have to cover that exposed insulation. Its color doesn't go with the wood and the adobe."

Back where she belongs

The main altar and the other *retablos* were dug up from under the mud and the *santos* were restored to their original niches. The Virgin of La Naval, patroness of the parish, is now back in her proper place in the altar. New pews, lights and a sound system have been installed and the electrical connections rewired.

Father Nes converted into a museum what

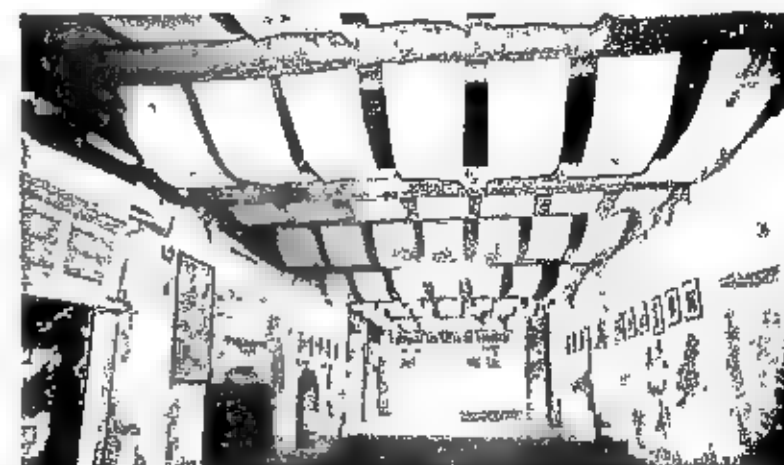
remained of the St. Mary's convent and school attached to the church. Artifacts from the church and works by local artists hang on the walls. Paintings by Bacolor artists were done on wood taken from the old church. The museum seems as eerie as the dungeons in old intramuros, except that the floor is made of sand.

The wood and iron grills from the church, which were pulled away by the mudflow, were used for the construction of the *bala parí* or house of the priest beside the church.

Father Nes says there's still much to be done to the church. "Everything here was totally destroyed, even the hope of the people," says Father Nes, remembering the time Lahar buried Bacolor. "But there was a spot of hope—the church that remained and the few people who stayed. The bishop was telling me to leave and they would close the parish of Bacolor. As a young priest, I couldn't leave my house that easily."

Through the restored church and the support of the parishioners, Father Nes realized the real meaning of "grace," which used to be only an abstract idea in theology class.

"Here, we live by the grace of God that comes like the flow of the water. In times of disaster, we fully feel the presence of God," he said.



THE ST. Mary's school and convent, now a museum



THE COMPUTERS inside the Children's Library give kids a chance to browse the Internet where they can gather helpful and informative data.

Donations to library now tax-deductible

THE PHILIPPINE Council for NGO Certification (PCNC) has granted the Children's Library the status of donee institution.

The accreditation will allow sponsors to get a 100 percent tax deduction for grants to the library. It boosts the library's mission to establish quality, nonprofit multimedia children's libraries. Among recent donors was Magnus Phils, which committed to the Children's Library a donation of P100,000 to mark its first anniversary in the Philippines in May.

The PCNC Evaluation Team thoroughly examined every aspect of the Children's Library, including its program of activities, structure, systems, financial records and relevance to the community, before granting it a one-year certification.

The Children's Library has served almost 200,000 people at its Robinsons Galleria and Imus branches. It will open a satellite branch in Novaliches in October.

The Children's Library's is a project of the Gokongwei Brothers Foundation. Call the Children's Library office at 636-3520/7682.

California students donate books for Sierra Madre kids

CHILDREN of the Northern Sierra Madre Natural Park have something to be happy about. On Aug. 4, about 20,000 books donated by schoolchildren of the state of California, USA will reach the Sierra Madre children. Forty public schools in that rugged region in the northeast Philippines will receive, on the average, 500 books in various subjects such as natural sciences, mathematics, English language and literature.

The Books for the Barangay Foundation Inc., the organization responsible for sourcing the books, shares the same vision as the Books for the Barrios, its counterpart in the US. The BBFI is devoted to acquiring and distributing quality secondhand textbooks and learning materials from the US, as well as overruns from publishers such as the National Geographic. (In the last 20 years, the BBFI has distributed almost 4,200,000 books nationwide. In general, BBFI's donations support the National Book Distribution program of the DECS.)

"Of course, distributing 20,000 books is no easy job," says BBFI president Miguel Fernandez. "For every 20-ft container-load of books, we need P300,000 to cover warehousing, shipping, handling, forwarding and other administrative expenses. This is where our partners, American President Lines and LBC Express Inc. come in."

Fernandez said the province of Isabela and the regional offices of the DECS and the DENR will participate by selecting the most appropriate recipient public elementary schools and sponsoring the Friendship Ceremony on Aug. 4.

The event will be graced by the presence of DENR Secretary Heherson Alvarez and Isabela Gov. Faustino Dy Jr. Two global development organizations, Conservation International, Phils., a conservation organization with head offices in Washington, D.C., and Plan International Phils. will provide all the logistical arrangements for books depots, boats, gasoline, vehicles and field coordination for the activity.

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Sunday LIFESTYLE



AT BENETTON'S Fifth Avenue flagship store, New York City

Benetton and the united colors of optimism

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY TIM YAP

"AH! FILIPINNOH!!!" exclaimed the people at Sun Studios in downtown Manhattan as they approached us with wide open arms. I thought they were going to hug us—it felt like a long-lost *balikbayan*'s first visit to kith and kin in some province.

The difference was this province was called New York City. And the event was a photo-shoot for United Colors of Benetton's Spring 2002 collection worldwide. Model Rissa Samson and yours truly were chosen to represent Benetton Philippines, and Asia for that matter, for this Gift Gate Group undertaking.

"In a fashion shoot, you guys know that there is a lot of waiting. So wait," the pictorial's French creative director, Brice Compagnon said in a beguiling accent. The European crew took turns in introducing themselves to us. "Two cheeks," they reminded us about the Euro way of greeting friends. Mwah, mwah.

Compagnon then ushered us into an area where a sprawling breakfast buffet awaited—an American breakfast served in Filipino abundance. "We can't eat too much—we cannot look fat for the shoot!" said "it" gal Rissa as we feasted on bacon and eggs. "Can't afford to waste my yoga," I agreed, as I snatched another serving of the sausage.

Holding her own

Jeanne Hernandez, Benetton Phil's pride, was religiously documenting via her digicam every single detail. The studio was huge, with a reception area, several rooms and offices, a dressing area, clothes and shoe racks and a hi-tech-looking inner photography chamber all neatly outlined in the vast space.

Two girls were being made up when we arrived. About an hour and a half later, they both stood from their makeup stools. "Giants," we thought to ourselves. In my usual GRO mood, I went up to them and chit-chatted while waiting.

The first girl was a statuesque blonde, the type you see in American campus films, the heartthrob kind of girl who does the "slow-motion-hair-waving-sun-in-my-smile-I-look-like-an-angel" takes. She's 17, 6'2" and still growing. The other one was another fresh pretty face, all of 14 years, 5'11" and still growing. I felt like I was auditioning for "Snow White"—as a dwarf, of course.

With a quiet sense of confidence, Rissa was able to hold her own against the twin towers. "Exotique," I overheard somebody say about this well-traveled young lady. She would effortlessly turn heads the whole duration of our New York stay—from the hip halls of the Hudson

BENETTON/pd2

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(* See User's Guide for other Access Numbers and additional instructions.)

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Per 000-8740 Permit No. 0413 Series of 2001



PARTYING at the Hudson bar



RISSA strikes a pose at the Hudson's garden lobby.



"If you touch my hair, I will kill you"

Benetton and the united colors of optimism

(From page D1)

Hotel (where we were billeted) to tumultuous Times Square to the chi-chi clubs of the NYC night life. Filipino beauty at its finest.

No-goo guy

Now back to the shoot. After what seemed like an eternity, my turn came. The stylist chose my clothes and accessories. I then proceeded to the makeup artist, which took all of five minutes (he hardly touched my face—thank God for Oriental skin). I did not put any goo in my hair on Rissa's advice, as the look would depend on the shoot's stylist.

They put my hair up—super up. As in "I just saw the scariest anime movie in my life" kind of up. "See, it is good to change your look," said the stylist, looking at me from the dressing room mirror, oh-so proud of her work. Little did she know, this had been how I styled my hair the past five years. Still, it felt good to be pampered.

They were shooting five girls and one guy (me) that day. But during the shoot, some models would arrive at the studio for a go-see (modelspeak for audition). Different looks, some with ethnic backgrounds, rushed in and out of the studio. Being typically Filipino, we took it upon ourselves to be the welcoming committee for these models, offering them food, making them feel at home—ah, our innate hospitality!

We later learned that we were the only ones cast from abroad—flown in and taken care of like "imported goods." Everybody else was selected in the US.

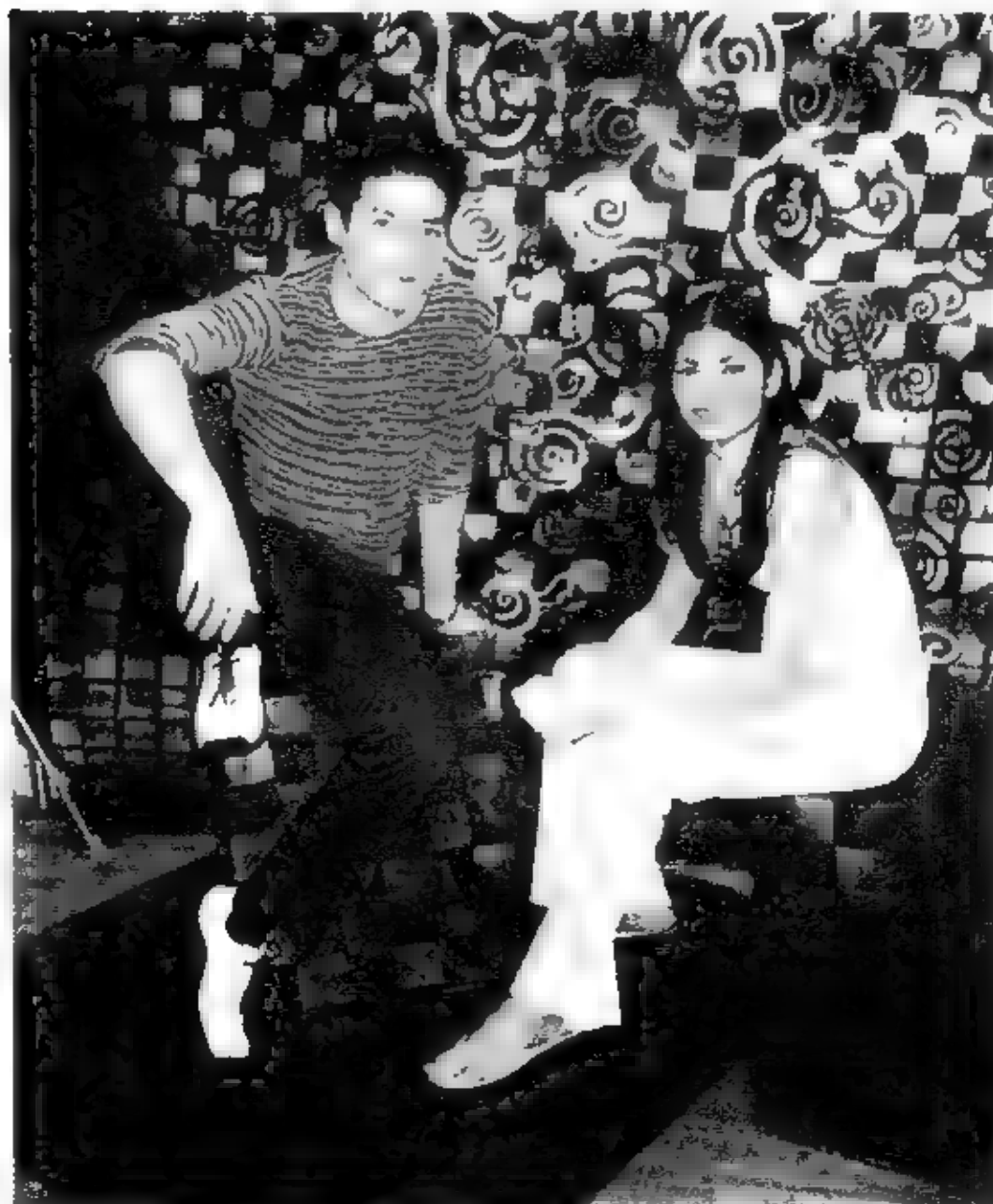
Then our moments arrived. Rissa was asked to move in circular paths with her body, as our British photographer James Moulton captured her in her element.

When my turn came, a trampoline was brought in. "Good," I told myself. "I'll just jump and jump." And jump I did. Not to mention kick—front kicks, side kicks and back kicks—thank God for Vanessa Garcia's taekwondo classes. It seemed like I jumped for 30 minutes; after a while, my feet were killing me.

Ready for close-up

We had another change of clothes as we did our close-ups. Rissa was made to do ballet poses since the photographer learned of her solid ballet background.

When it was my turn, I just stood there, looking at the camera. Then they took me to the next room. "Think happy thoughts," they said. Pressure filled my mind. It was if mental pictures of the Abu Sayyaf and the peso-dollar exchange rate flashed across my sub-



THE AUTHOR and Rissa Samson at Sun Studios, New York after the Benetton Spring 2002 fashion shoot



CHOW time!



BEHIND the scenes before the shoot



UP, UP AND AWAY. Michelle, from Marilyn modelling agency



MODEL Browna who is 14 years old



SET to conquer the world



MODELS do eat, too!



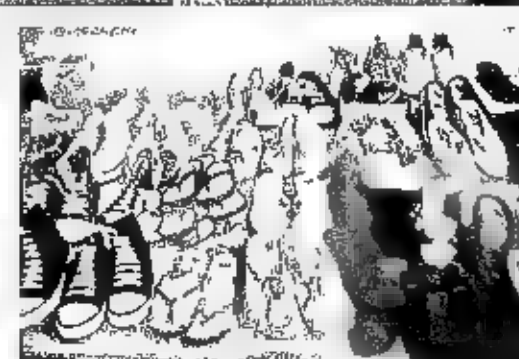
BENETTON'S PR man Mark Major with Jeannie Hernandez from Ben Phil.



MANNEQUIN, TOO! Rissa hams it up at Benetton's Fifth Avenue flagship store



MALE CALL. Model awaiting his turn



SHOE shopping for wannabe Imeldas



BRITISH photographer James Moulton with assistant Dean



BENETTON TEAM. Stylist Isabel, Brice and Susanna dining at Pastis after the shoot



CASTING WALL. Polaroid photos of models line the studio wall. Those that remain face up, get the job.



CLOTHES HORSE. Benetton's Spring 2002 wardrobe

Mementos of a cherished milestone
in baby's life.



BEFORE



AFTER

PHOTOS AND MEMORIES OF BABY'S FIRST HAIRCUT

Johnson's Baby Shampoo celebrated a
milestone in baby's life... Baby's First Haircut!

It was the perfect host to hundreds of babies who
trooped to SM Megamall from June 29 to July 1
to get a free haircut, to watch a magic show and a
bubble show, and to bring home a special photo
frame that carried their photos and lock of hair from
their first haircut!

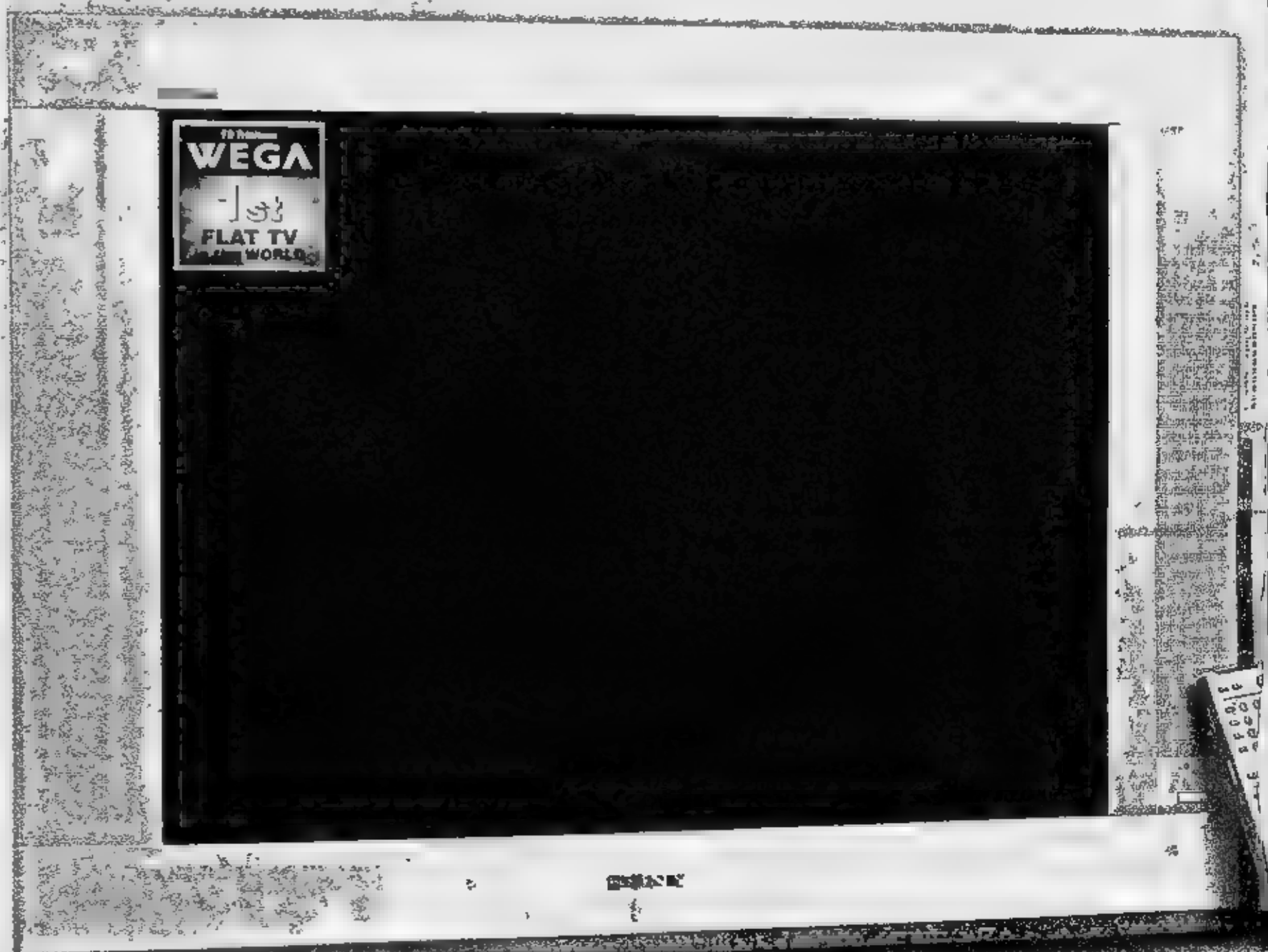
It was the perfect bonding moment for mummies
and their babies... and baby's first shampoo,
Johnson's Baby Shampoo!

If you and your baby missed this memorable event,
Johnson's Baby Shampoo would like you to be a
part of the next one.
Watch out for it!



Sharing a special moment with you.

Johnson & Johnson



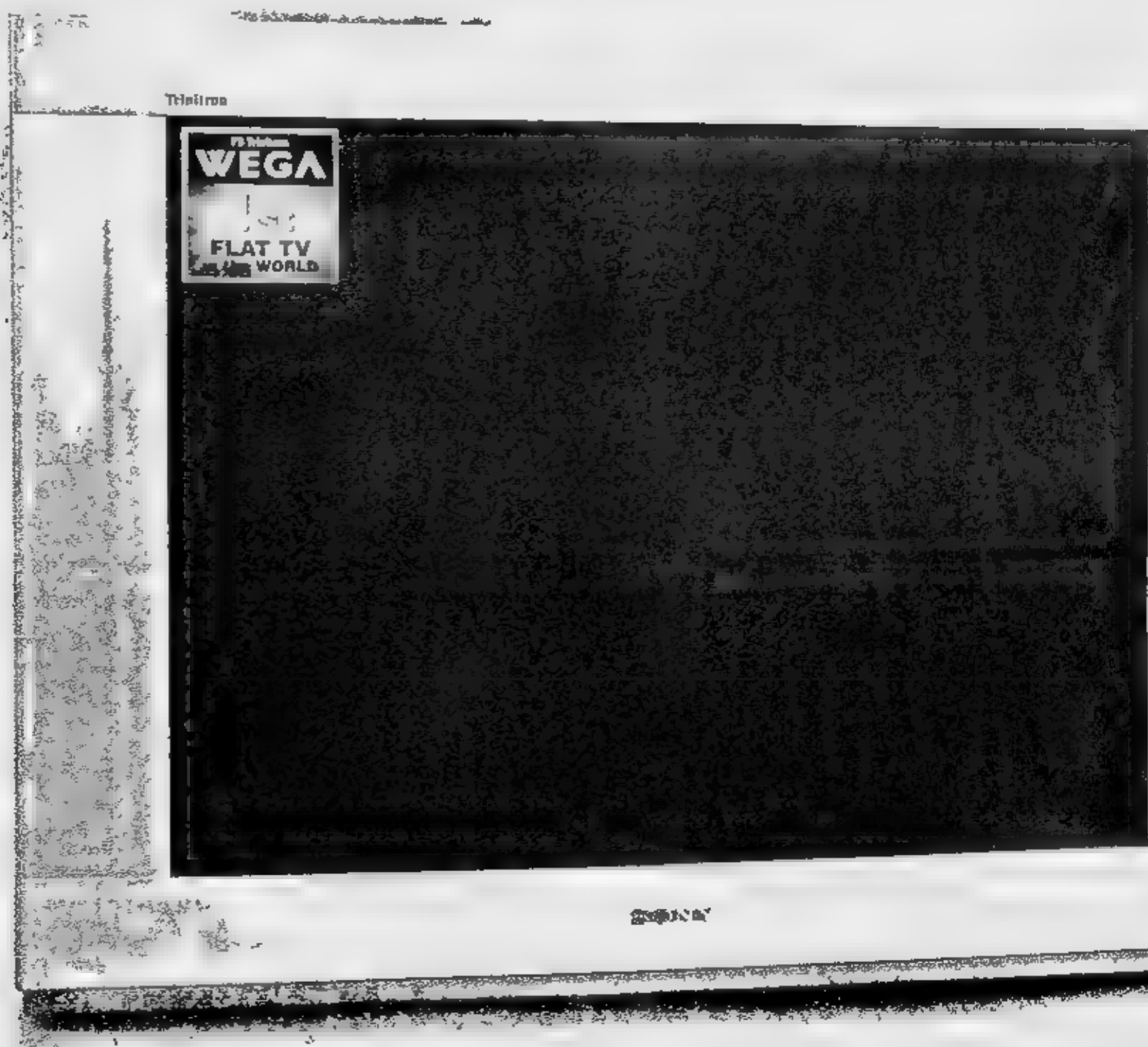
(2) Sony Wega 34" with DVD Home Theater System

zed

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Enjoy full-blown movie entertainment at home with your own Sony Wega 34" with DVD Home Theater System from **Get zed! Get SMART Gold, SMART Buddy, and Talk 'N Text** subscribers can download any logo, picture message, icon, or ring tone to get a virtual raffle coupon. The more you download, the better your chances of winning any of the cool Sony, Nike, Nintendo, and Oakley products every week. The Sony Home Theater System together with other Sony, Piaggio, and Compaq products will also be given away in our grand raffle draws. How's that for getting a different point of view? Hurry and load up on zed now!

Promo until October 7, 2001



(2) Sony Wega 34" with DVD Home Theater System

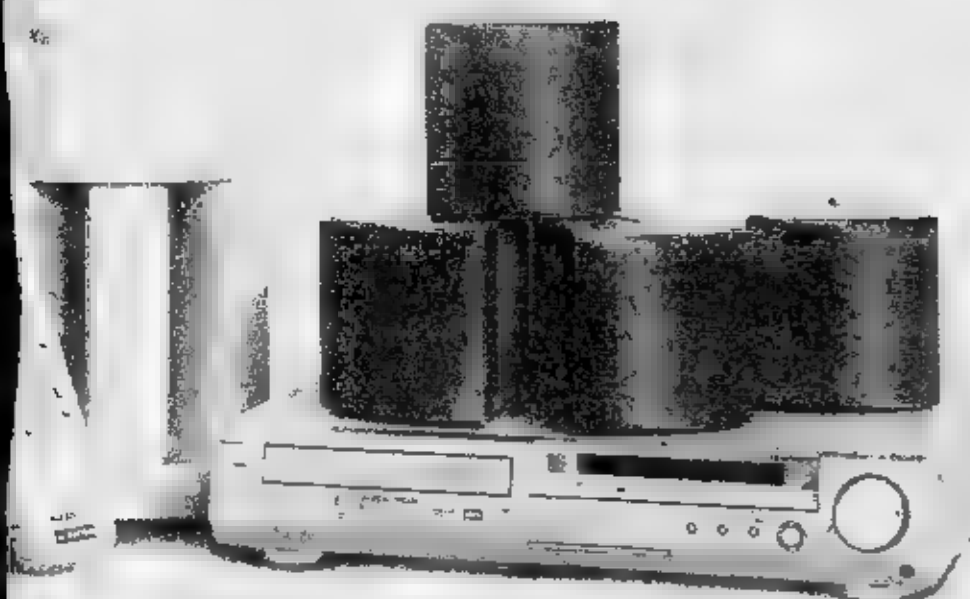
zed

Take a shot at over P3million worth of prizes when you download zed logos, ring tones and picture messages.

Enjoy full-blown movie entertainment at home with your own Sony Wega 34" with DVD Home Theater System from Get zed! Get SMART Gold, SMART Buddy, and Talk 'N Text subscribers can download any logo, picture message, icon, or ring tone to get a virtual raffle coupon. The more you download, the better your chances of winning any of the cool Sony, Nike, Nintendo, and Oakley products every week. The Sony Home Theater System together with other Sony, Plaggio, and Compaq products will also be given away in our grand raffle draws. How's that for getting a different point of view? Hurry and load up on zed now!

Promo until October 7, 2001

Get zed! Get loaded!



heater System



Get zed! Get loaded!

COMPLETE MECHANICS:

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- Services qualified are:
Operator logo : Keyword LOGO
Group icon : Keyword ICON
Ring tone : Keyword TONE
Picture Msg : Keyword PIC
Subscribers will be charged ₱12.00 for every successful transaction.
- Should a participant wish to get important key words for the services, he keys in HELP LOGO, HELP TONE, HELP PIC, or HELP ICON and he will receive through text the important key words for the services.
- All raffle draws will take place at 10:00 a.m., at the Sonera zed Office, 27th Floor, Tower II, Enterprise Building, Paseo de Roxas, Makati City.

The draw schedule and the promotional period covered are as follows:

Week	Prize Period	Draw Date
Week 1	July 29 - August 5, 2001	August 6, 2001
Week 2	August 6 - 12, 2001	August 13, 2001
Week 3	August 13 - 19, 2001	August 20, 2001
Week 4	August 20 - 26, 2001	August 27, 2001
Week 5 / 1st Monthly	August 27 - September 3, 2001	September 3, 2001
Week 6	September 3 - 9, 2001	September 10, 2001
Week 7	September 10 - 16, 2001	September 17, 2001
Week 8	September 17 - 23, 2001	September 24, 2001
Week 9	September 24 - 30, 2001	October 1, 2001
Week 10 / 2nd Monthly	October 1 - 7, 2001	October 8, 2001

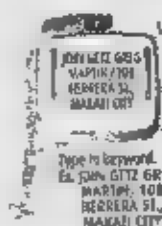
For the 10 Weekly Draws

(2) Sony D Handycam
(2) Sony D Handycam
(2) Sony Cyber-shot DSC-F505V
(2) Sony Cyber-shot DSC-F505V
(2) Sony Cyber-shot DSC-F505V
(2) Sony Cyber-shot DSC-F505V
(2) Sony Cyber-shot DSC-F505V
(2) Sony Cyber-shot DSC-F505V
(2) Sony Cyber-shot DSC-F505V
(2) Sony Cyber-shot DSC-F505V

For the 2 Monthly Grand Draws

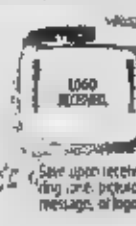
(4) Compaq iPaq Pocket PC
(4) Compaq iPaq Pocket PC
(4) Compaq iPaq Pocket PC
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- Taxes for all prizes will be shouldered by Sonera zed.
- A participant can only win once. Should a winner's name be drawn more than once, he gets the prize of higher value and another entry will be generated in its place.
- All winners of the weekly and grand draw will be informed initially via a text message and registered mail. From the date of notification, winners have until 60 days to claim their prize. Prizes not claimed within the given period will be forfeited in favor of Sonera zed with prior approval from DTI.
- To claim your prize, please bring your cellular phone with the congratulatory text message, your letter of notification, and a valid ID to Ace Saatchi & Saatchi, 10th Floor, Feliza Building, 108 Herrera Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City. For Vis-Min provincial winners, prizes will be shipped to them and winners will be informed on details of how to claim their prize.
- Employees of Smart Communications, Sonera zed, Ace Saatchi & Saatchi, as well as non-revenue Smart special subscribers, including their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from joining the promotion.



To qualify for the raffle prizes, you must first register before you download or send.

For the 10 Weekly Draws, type in keyword: JOIN GETZ <name>/<address> and send to 288. Example: JOIN GETZ Gigi Ocampo/108 Herrera St., Makati City, send to (288).



To get the latest list of the newest ring tones, logos, icons, and picture messages, type in TONE NEW, LOGO NEW, ICON NEW, or PIC NEW and send to 288. Available for selected mobile cell phones. ₱12.00 for every successful download.

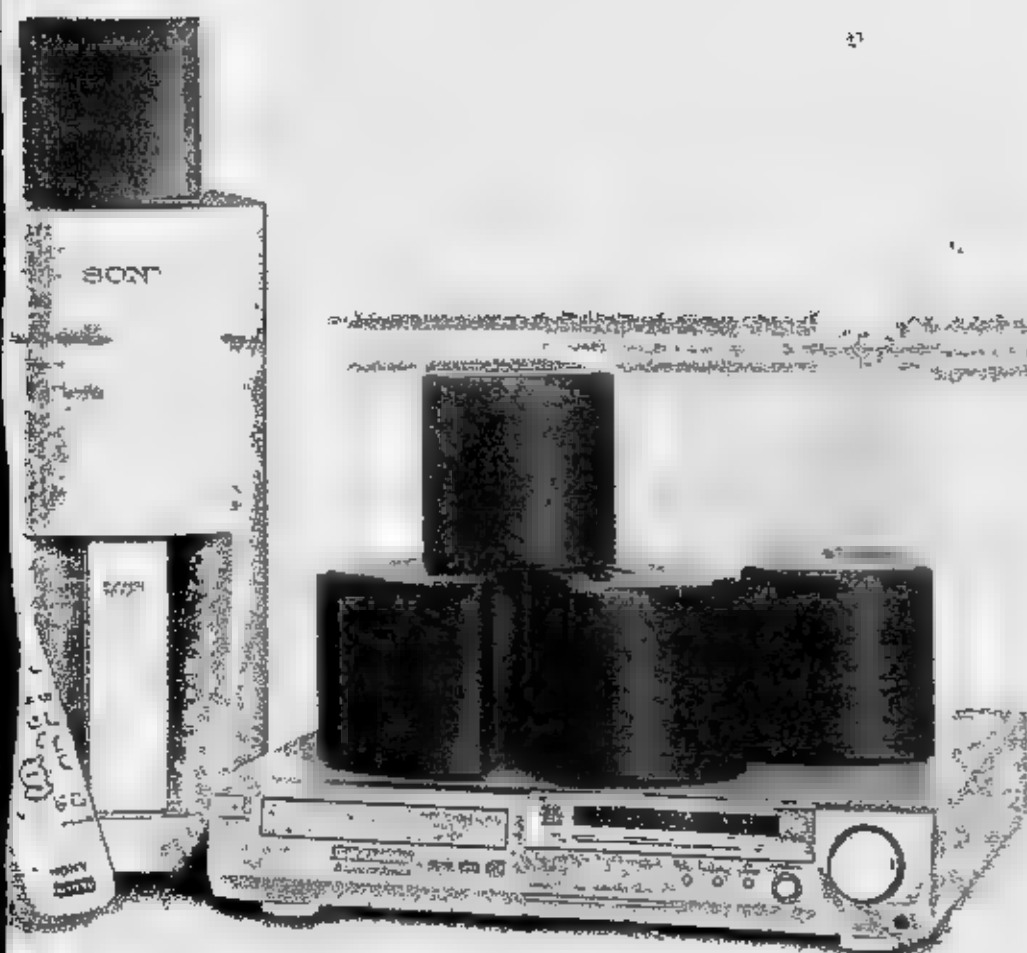
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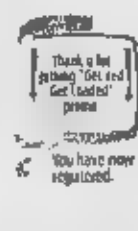
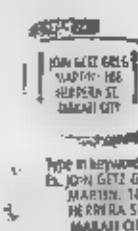
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Prizes at stake are as follows:

For the 10 Weekly Draws	For the 2 Monthly Grand Draws
(2) Sony CD Walkman	(4) Compaq iPaq Pocket PC
Sony V-Series Mini-camcorder	(2) Playigo Vespa PK 150
Sony Cyber-shot DSC F505V	Sony Cyber-shot DSC F505V
Sony Handycam DCR-PC9	Sony Handycam DCR-PC9
Gameboy Advance	Sony Mega 24" (66.36 cms) w/ DVD Home Theater System
Nike Triax 50 Laps	
Oakley Penny	
Oakley Minute Jacket	

6. Taxes for all prizes will be shouldered by Sonera zed.
7. A participant can only win once. Should a winner's name be drawn more than once, he gets the prize of higher value and another entry will be generated in its place.
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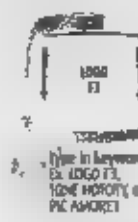


Type in keyword:
EX: JOIN GETZ GIGI
DAMPON/108
HERRERA ST.
MAKATI CITY

Send to 288.

You have now
registered.

To qualify for the raffle prizes, you must first register before you download or send.



Type in keyword:
EX: LOGO FY,
TONE MOPOTY, or
PIC MOPOTY

Send to 288.

Save upon receiving
ring tone, picture
message, or logo.

To get the latest list of the newest ring tones, logos, icons, and picture message, type in TONE NEW, LOGO NEW, ICON NEW, or PIC NEW and send to 288. Available for selected Nokia cell phones. ₱12.00 for every successful download.

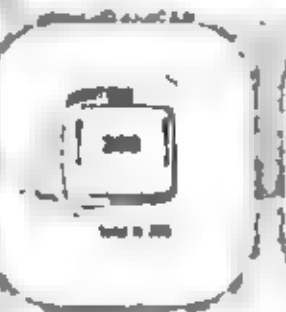
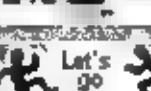
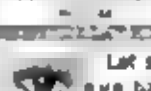
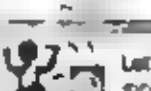
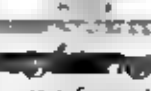
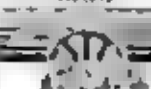
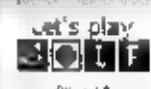
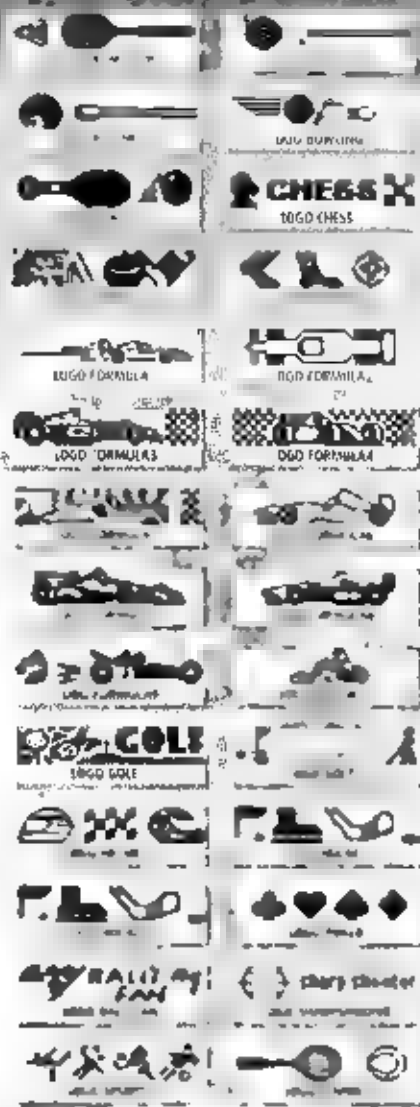
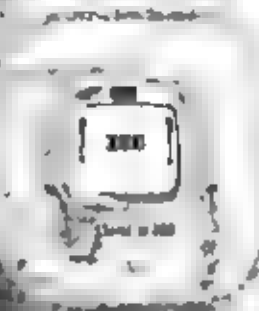
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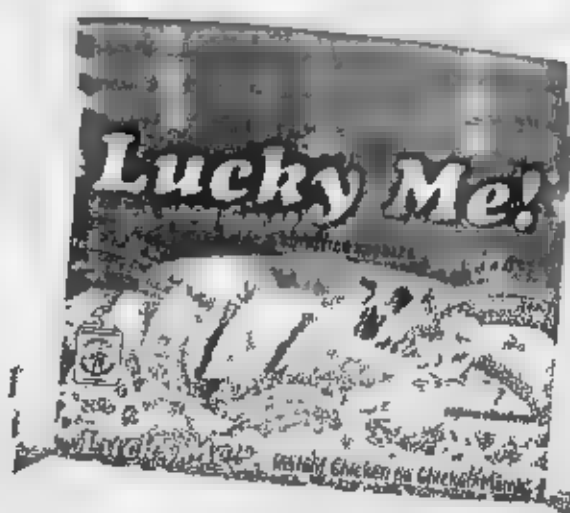
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Lucky Me! MANOK MAMIA



A big 'chicken surprise' by Lucky Me! in Marikina

IT WAS one big "chicken surprise" to residents in various barangays in Marikina when Lucky Me! held a fiesta event in Riverbanks Center last July 8.

The "Lucky Me! Chicken na Chicken Mami Manok Mama" event created quite a stir in the community when colorful floats depicting different representations of the chicken paraded on the main streets and proceeded to Riverbanks for the variety show and games.

The "Chika Float" parade was a contest participated in by the different barangays to highlight the native chicken taste of Lucky Me! "Chicken na Chicken" mami.

Delighted residents flocked to the covered parking lot of Riverbanks to participate in the fun games conducted by hosts Winnie Cordero and Raffy Rodriguez.

There was the "Lambonok" contest, where participants did the chicken dance while attempting to bend their bodies under a rod. Contestants got tongue tied saying "Lucky Me! mas chicken na

Cordero and Rodriguez, young stars Chubi del Rosario and Anne Curtis entertained the barangay crowd with lively performances.

The winner of the Chika Float Award was Barangay Barangka, which got the P50,000 grand prize. Barangay Sto. Niño's float was named as "Pinaka-Chicken Float," Barangay Tañong's was "Pinaka-Lucky Me!," and Barangay Parang's was "People's Choice." These barangays received P10,000 each as prize money.

Two other barangays, Barangay Kalumpang and Concepcion 2, received P5,000 each for their winning floats.

"The Rocker" chicken owned by Thurt Calers from Barangay Barangka won in the "Chika Idol" event.

The almost whole-day affair was graced by Marikina Mayor Marides Fernando and representatives from Nissin Corporation and Jimenez D'Arcy Advertising namely Tony Isidro, brand manager of Lucky Me!, Steward So, Monde Nissin Corp. area distributor and Yolly Victoriano, copywriter were judges to the contests.

Lucky Me! is currently the market leader in the instant noodles category and its new and improved "Chicken na Chicken Mami" is a testimony of the company's commitment to product quality.

The Lucky Me!-inspired fiesta was one event the people in Marikina will long remember and treasure. (Raque P. Gomez)



Lucky Me!

Lusog Sarap Nutrition Noodles

IT'S fiesta atmosphere as an At-atihan group dances in the streets of Marikina



"PINAKA LUCKY ME!" float winner from Barangay Tañong



GRAND prize "Chika Float Award" is from Barangay Barangka



chicken" in the "Tilaok Twister" event.

In the "Huli-hen" affair, native chickens owned by the residents literally "ran for their lives" to the finish line in the marathon contest for chickens. Chickens also ran some more in the "Catch the Native Chicken" contest where blindfolded participants grappled for the catch prize in a large cage.

There was even a "beauty contest" for chickens, the "Chika Idol" event, a rare chance for residents to "dress up" their pet chickens to appear as colorful characters. Check these chicken characters: an "Abu Sayyaf" chicken, a "Charlene and Aga Muhlach" pair of chickens, "Santa Claus" chicken and an "Elvis Presley" or "Rocker" chicken.

"What's the scientific name of chicken?" asked host Rodriguez to folks who were in a hurry to line up in the "Pera o Manok" quiz show about chickens. The event drew up interest in things trivia about the lowly chicken.

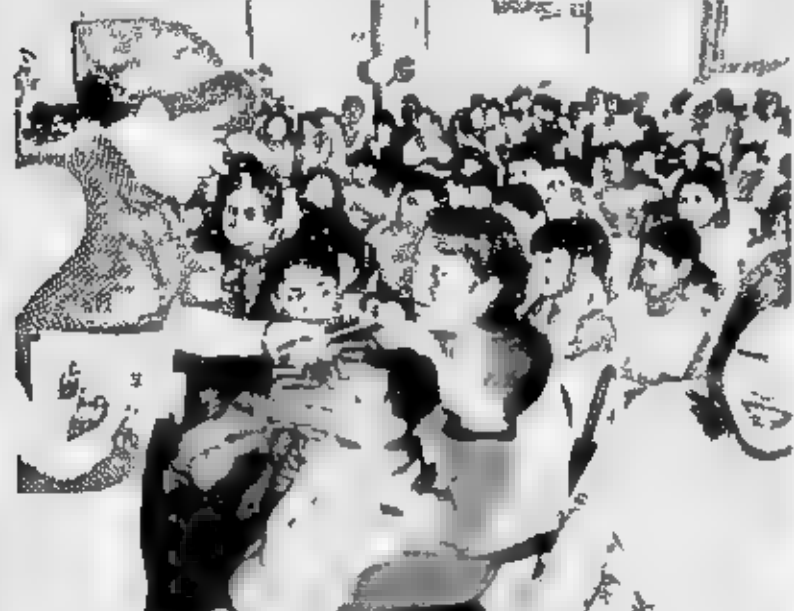
Aside from the funny and engaging hosts



ENGAGING hosts and stars Chubi del Rosario, Raffy Rodriguez, Anne Curtis and Winnie Cordero



THE "Rocker" chicken (inside the giant egg shell) with "Rocker" owner



WHAT a crowd! Marikina residents trooped to Riverbanks for the games and the show



RODRIGUEZ does the chicken dance



RODRIGUEZ engages a contestant in the "Pera o Manok" segment



OWNERS with pet chickens pose for the "Chika Idol" contest, a beauty contest for chickens

**Bingo
TXT**

GOTHELLO

DECODE

**tic
tac
toe**

GOTHELLO

**HANG
MAN**

**tic
tac
toe**

**Bingo
TXT**

**WORD
SEEK**

**Bingo
TXT**

**WORD
SEEK**

DECODE

GOTHELLO

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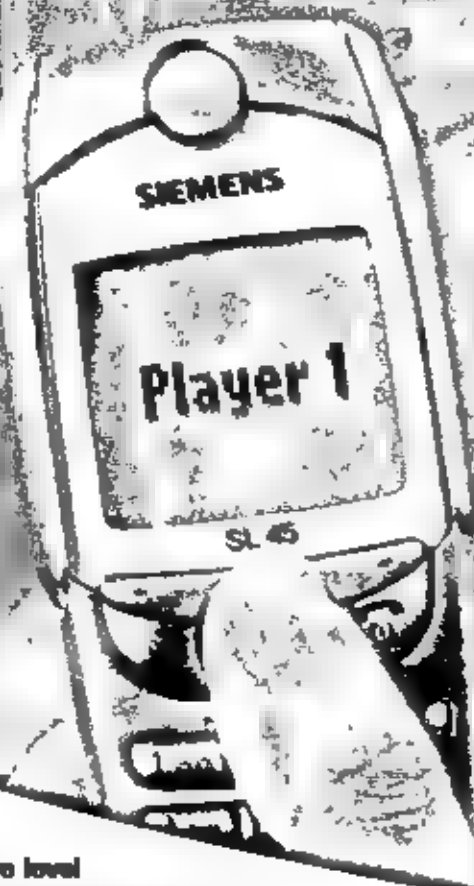
**HANG
MAN**

**HANG
MAN**

**WORD
SEEK**

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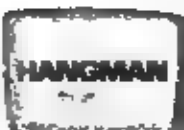
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GOTHELLO	PLAY GTLO	HELP GTLO
BINGOTXT	PLAY BT	HELP BT
HANGMAN	PLAY HM	HELP HM
DECODE	PLAY DC	HELP DC
WORDSEEK	PLAY WS	HELP WS

Send all commands to 238

You can also send messages to another player in all
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To send a message, key in TO <nickname> <message>.
To reply to a message, key in REPLY <message>.
To find out your, or your opponent's rank, key in
RANK <name>. Send all commands to 238.

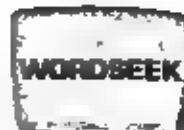
Each message sent to 238 will be charged \$2.50



Guess the letters
in the word
leading to the
phrase before
your opponent
does.



Unscramble
letters to reveal
the secret word.



Outwit your
opponent by
forming more
words from the
letters in a given
word.



Place your
symbols in a row
of three before
your opponent
does.



Switch your
opponent's
symbols into your
own by making
moves in slots
where your
opponent's
symbols are.



Place your
symbols in a row
of four before
your opponent
does

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

All is set for Shahani NCCA 'homecoming'

COMPILED BY LITO ZULUETA



IT'S almost a done deal that former senator Leticia Ramos-Shahani will be the next chair of the National Commission on Culture and the Arts. Presidential Management Staff head Vicki Garchitorena and other palace officials have indicated to the NCCA board that President Macapagal-Arroyo wants Shahani and would appreciate it if the former senator could be inducted into the commission through proper channels.

So expect Shahani to emerge as head of the one of the committees of the NCCA before being named one of three sub-commission chairs and, finally, NCCA chair. Since current NCCA chair Jaime Laya is too much of a gentleman to stand in a woman's way, expect Shahani's arrival to be dignified and decent, quite unlike her previous attempt to gain a foothold in the commission by goading her former Senate staff to give up her chairmanships of the Committee on Libraries. When committee members protested, Shahani said she might not be a librarian, but she was a library user.

In a way, it is going to be a homecoming for Shahani. After all, as she never tires of reminding the NCCA people, she was the author of the law that created the commission (along with Edgardo Angara and Heherson Alvarez in the Senate and Carlos Padilla in the House of Representatives, whom she does not bother to mention).

Her homecoming will also end three years of a largely empty search for a government office after her Senate term. It must be remembered that Shahani waged a lackluster campaign to become United Nations secretary-general. Then she lobbied to become Joseph Estrada's running mate (much to the chagrin of her brother), and when that failed, she ran for governor of Pangasinan. Rejected by her provincemates, she campaigned to get the presidency of the University of the Philippines, but to no avail. The last we heard of her, she was helping her son Rajiv become governor of Pangasinan, again to no avail.

It is said that as chair of the NCCA, Shahani will end a statesmanlike air to the affairs of the commission. No doubt supporters are harping on her credentials as a diplomat, notably her stint in the United Nations. Of course, the UN is filled with diplomats and bureaucrats who help themselves to UN fat—unnecessary offices, overreaching programs, and high-sounding but really pointless conferences. The world government that is the UN is one bloated bureaucracy where petty potentates rule. Nobody loses his office, he is dispatched to another office created to accommodate another mind-boggling program and another insufferable ego.

Presidential mismanagement staff

THE PRESIDENT does not only have to answer for the growing predictability of her appointments, she should also answer for the poor correspondence and awful protocol by her own Presidential Management Staff.



Consider the presidential appointment letter of the new board of trustees of the Cultural Center of the Philippines. The letter dated July 12 is addressed to "Sirs" at the bottom, the attention of the appointed "chairman" and "president" are called, obviously referring to Baltazar Endriga and Nes Jardin. The trouble is that the letter also appoints other members of the board, several of them women. The letter is sexist, gender-exclusive and in bad taste. Since presumably only Endriga and Jardin got copies of the letter, we wonder how the other members of the board, including the women, could think that the President had appointed them. Are their appointments valid? Do they have something to show for it?

Worse, the PMS did not formally furnish the outgoing board of Gloria Angara and Armita Rufino copies of the letter. The old board merely received a photocopy of the facsimile of the letter that had been transmitted apparently by the Endriga group to one of the CCP's offices. Is this any way to conduct the business of

ALL / p.E7



HOMECOMING queen, Leticia Shahani

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Mommy's Guide to
Wound
Protection

Is using an
antiseptic cream
really necessary?

The answer is, yes. Because it helps heal
your child's wound twice faster than applying nothing at all.

Q What's in an antiseptic cream that makes it effective in making the healing process faster?

A An antiseptic cream, like Band-Aid® Brand Antiseptic Cream, contains clinically-proven antibacterial agents like cetrimide and chlorhexidine digluconate, which effectively kill germs that cause infection. Its cream base also helps provide a moisturizing environment necessary for the faster healing of your child's wounds.

Q Is it only recommended for deep wounds?

A No. Also for minor wounds, which your active children usually get. Always remember that scratches, scrapes, abrasions, burns,

Insect bites and skin rashes could also get infected when treated improperly.

Q Can it also help relieve pain and swelling?

A Yes, it can help. Some antiseptic cream brands available in the market, like Band-Aid® Brand Antiseptic Cream, have special moisturizing formula, which cools and soothes the discomfort associated with the wound.

Q Does it cause irritation when applied on the wound?

A No. It contains no alcohol, so it does not sting nor cause any irritating feeling. It can also be absorbed by the wound quickly and effectively because it is water-based.

That also explains why it gives a cool, refreshing feeling when applied.

Q What is the best way of applying antiseptic cream?

A First, you have to clean the wound with soap and water. Next, disinfect the wound's surrounding area with cotton and isopropyl alcohol. Then, apply a small amount of antiseptic cream on the wound. Lastly, cover the affected area with a plastic strip.

Now Band-Aid® Brand Antiseptic Cream, from the
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criminals
roam
free...

Where the
law dare
not go...

He is
there...



Nestlé responds to consumer's complaint

TOO bad, writer Mozart Pastrano was no longer in town when Nestlé Philippines reacted to his complaint about buying a spoiled product. Wherever in Japan you are now, Mozart, this is how Nestlé responded to your gripe. We filled in for you during the plant tour intended to show you the step-by-step hygienic production of Nestlé chilled product.

Company officials showed us production areas for Magnolia ice cream, *soho*, milk, Chumyo, yogurt and other chilled products. According to officials, work is non-stop to assure freshness of 17 brands and 30 different products. Daily production for ice cream alone is anywhere between 12,000 to 15,000 gallons of ice cream for big containers and 3,000 gallons for ice cream in cups.

Prior to entering the plant, we were made to wear boots, a white gown and a plastic head cap. Thanks for the gown, it helped keep the chill out of our bones. We were told that chilled products are pasteurized below 4°C for maximum freshness. And they have to be kept ideally at 2-8°C to prevent quality deterioration.

Officials proved to us that from start to finish, strict sanitation is maintained and quality is strictly monitored. What's more, defective products and containers are removed, either by machine or by hawk-eyed workers.

Ian Williams, senior vice president and factory manager, pointed out that all Nestlé products in the Philippines are produced under hygienic and quality standards in keeping with the high international requirements. With hundreds of consumer products worldwide and the

THE CONSUMER

Marietta Velasco Giron



big capital involved, indeed they cannot afford to take any kind of risk to destroy consumer expectations.

And, if we may add, Nestlé consumer services department cannot but respond right away to complaints. Officials encourage consumers to report defective product and erring Nestlé outlets. Interested groups can also request for a plant tour. Call Jocelyn Duran, the assistant vice president for consumer services, at 898-6261/0001 or 766-0987. Or e-mail consumerservice@ph.nestle.com

Exorbitant water rates in Obando

IF the plea for reduced rates by some 6,000 water users in Obando fall on deaf ears, they will have to pay 132 percent increase within the next five years. The new rates starting end of July is a minimum charge of P175 (P110 is current rate). After that, it will be P200 minimum charge in year 2002, P235 in 2004 and P255 in 2006.

Not surprisingly, the residents have formed the Consumers' Rights of Obando Water District, or Crowd, to put a united front against the Obando Water District. Vice president Alvin Claridades wrote to us: "The pricing scheme is far from socialized and it is the poor residents of this third-class municipality who

will bear the brunt of the onerous charges." He added that residents of nearby Malabon and Valenzuela are only paying Maynilad a minimum rate of less than P40.

Kodak replies to complaint
TAKE good care of your digital camera because repair costs don't come cheap. Reader Edgardo Gutierrez told us he paid Kodak's accredited repair center P2,500 for fixing, within one hour, a loose knob on his Kodak Digital Camera 210. It was no longer covered by warranty.

We appreciate the prompt response of Kodak's market specialist for digital and applied imaging to the complaint of Gutierrez. Melissa Asprer wrote: "Upon investigating the service transaction, we learned that the capture mode of his Kodak DC210 could no longer be set to take pictures. Two parts in the camera board—the dial mode and selector switch—had to be replaced. An allowance of five days lead time for repair is given (if spare parts are available) by our accredited repair center, the PNI Micro-digital Technical Services. In the case of Gutierrez, it was done in one day in consideration of the urgency of his request."

"The P2,500 minimum charge is PNI's standard labor charge for repairs of digital cameras not covered by warranty. This cost is comparable charges at our offices in Singapore (\$50) and Hong Kong (\$45-68). By the way, Kodak does not earn from service repair payments made by PNI."

Wyeth replies to comments
WE also appreciate the quick response of Wyeth Philippines Inc. to reader Rafael Palma's comment that



ICE cream in cup filling line at Nestlé

the company's medical ear product has no safety seal. He wrote: "Auralgan Otis solution, priced P367 for a 10-ml dose, manufactured by Hizon Laboratories for Wyeth and available at Mercury Drugstore, has no safety seals on the box and the bottle. For the price, consumers can only expect a little safety precaution."

Here is the reply of Pura Averila, pharmaceuticals technical manager, Wyeth Philippines Inc.

"It is true that our current packaging does not use a safety seal for this product. We did not see the need to put one until the comment of Rafael Palma, thanks to him. With your valuable input, we shall provide a safety seal to secure our product. We will

prioritize this improvement and act on it as soon as possible."

Home Cable explains

MICHELLE Ann Reyes, product manager for video value-added services of Home Cable, wrote the following reply to the complaint of Harry T. on extra charges for Chinese channels: "Last May 1, we launched Home Cable Jade, our Mandarin premium service with a successful promo where we gave away for free 1,000 addressable boxes (worth P3,500 each) for. And even after the promo, we charged only P1,500 and P55 monthly rental."

"Our Jade Channels (TVBS Asia variety, TVB Xinghe movies and Disney Channel Mandarin) are avail-

able for only P275 monthly, VAT inclusive. "We apologize that we cannot air the Channel [V] Chinese version because all our channels are occupied with some reserved for coming premium channels."

Paging TCA

MEANWHILE, journalist Linda Bolido wants to know from The Computer Authority when she will get the replacement for her brand new CD writer, which does not work. She was promised last Sunday, it would take no more than seven days but now it seems it will take longer than that.

Send comments and complaints to mgiron@csl.com.ph

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INULIN
What's In It For Kids?

When one talks of fiber, does Inulin ring a bell? Now, clinical studies are singling out this natural soluble fiber commonly found in vegetables and fruits such as leeks, onions, garlic, chicory, artichokes and bananas because of its varied nutritional properties ideal for kids.

For the last 20 years or so, the role of fiber in the diet has been accepted by numerous health organizations. Fiber has been proven to help in decreasing the risks of chronic diseases such as heart problems, colon cancer, diabetes and even obesity. Much of the link between fiber and disease is largely based on epidemiologic evidence associating low fiber intake with the incidence of disease.

NATURAL INULIN FIBER

is a soluble fiber that has been shown to lower cholesterol levels. High-fiber treatment diets have been successful in bringing down cholesterol levels by as much as 20 to 30%, and thus may prove useful in preventing obesity, which may have its roots in childhood hypertension.

(1) Source: Dietary Fiber of Children: Bogalusa Heart Study 1995/96

Natural Inulin Fiber is especially beneficial to digestive health by promoting normal laxation. By improving the absorption of minerals and the synthesis of vitamins, Natural Inulin Fiber plays an important role in the complete nourishment of children.

(2) Source: Dietary Fiber: A Healthy Discussion

Inulin, the next "in" thing in nutrition, is now easily accessible to moms and kids with new Lactum, now with Natural Inulin Fiber. The goodness of Inulin is now combined with the 100% nourishment found in Lactum. So moms, make sure your kids drink **Lactum** now with

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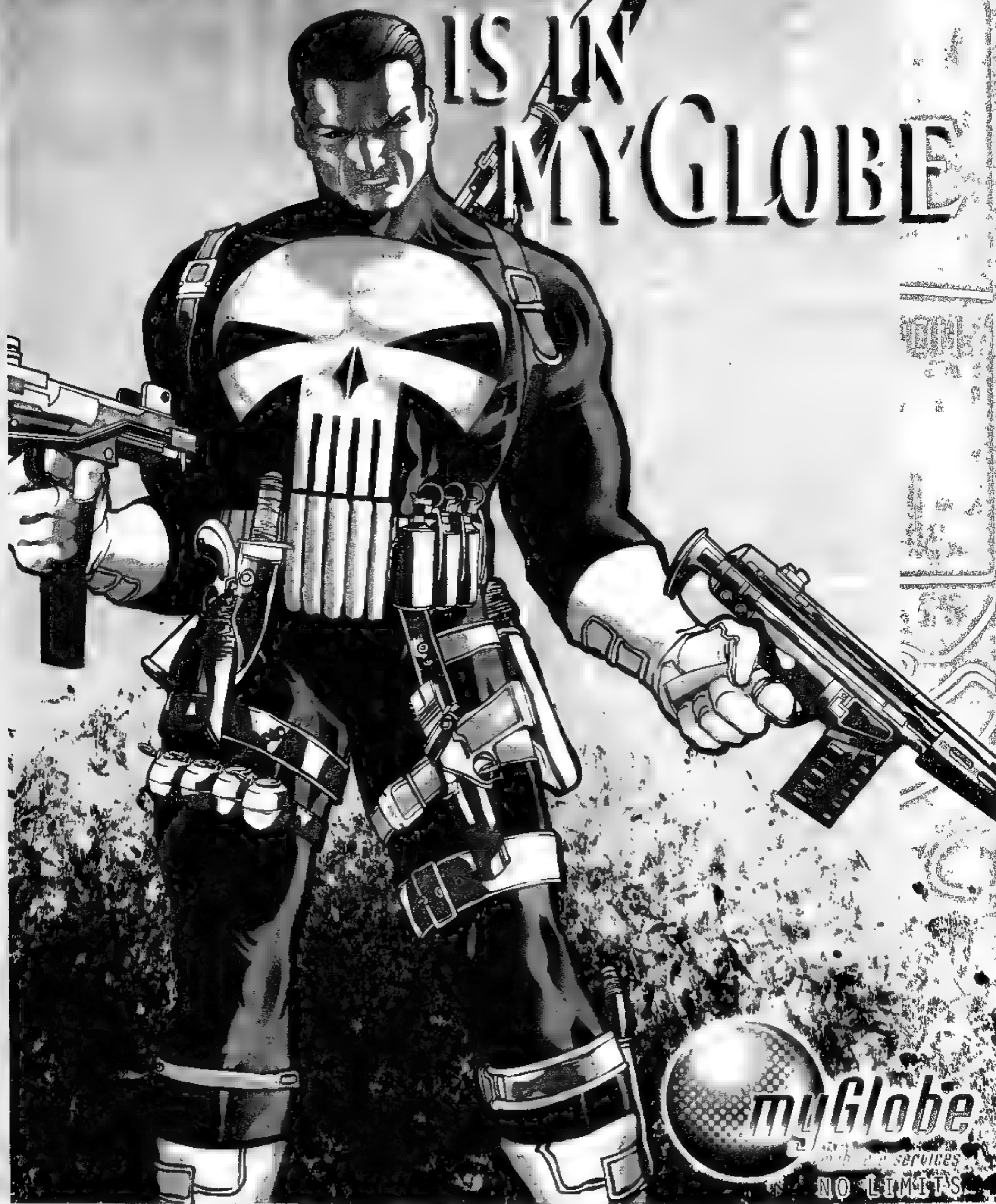
NEW products make shopping at S&R Price Membership Shopping Warehouse even more exciting.

S&R Price, the country's only world-class membership shopping warehouse, announced that Kidde-USA Fire Extinguisher, Dolfin Goggles and Kirkland Signature Body Wash, among others, are now available.

Also back in stock are shoppers' favorites Kraft Macaroni Cheese, Hollander Queen Pulow, Act 11 Popcorn, Gorilla Rock, Canine Dog Food and Tree Top Apple Juice. Also available are Homedics Massaging Foot Spa, PSMT Multivitamin 500 Tablets, Bertoli Olive Oil, Headstrom Trampoline, children's four-piece patio set, Flexon Garden Hose, Laundro King Detergent, Flexon Garden Hose (60" x 5/8"), Larin Floor Jack 2-ton and 3-ton shop vac, Seville Round Chafing Dish and Seville Creative Cubes.

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ARIES B. ESPINOSA, Assistant Editor

A TOWN/ES

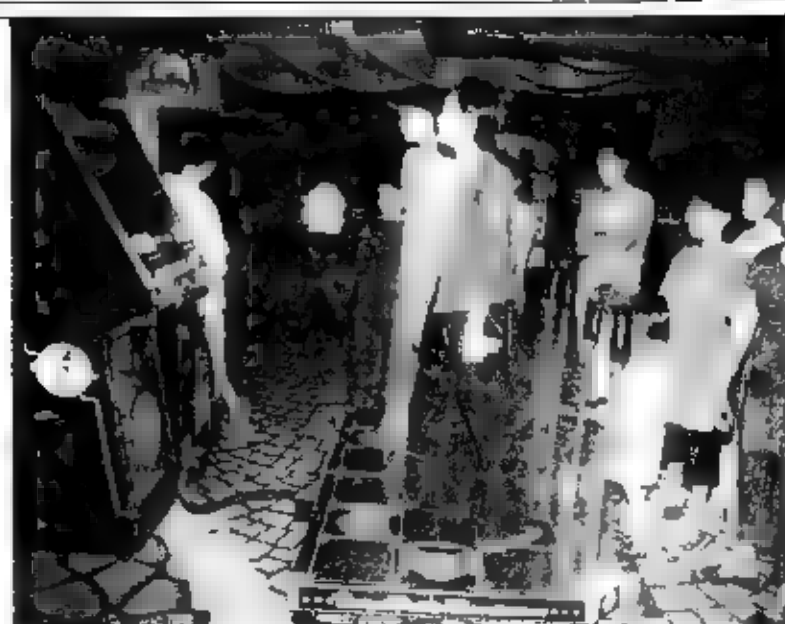




DREAM TOWN mascot favorite "Timmy" delights kids at the Mystical Merry-Go-Round.



MAINLINE EXPRESS—for that leisurely train ride around the park, a sure hit for kids and adults alike.



DREAM TOWN fulfills ever the teenagers' taste for adventure.

A town where everyone . . . (From page E4)

to "crash" into each other on their bump cars, and no police will issue a ticket.

- Wind Rider—an upgrade of the Octopus, this ride has 14 arms and riders can exercise control over their cars, making this an interactive ride.

- Mystical Merry-Go-Round (for the kiddies)—this ride relives the grandeur of the old reliable carousel.

- Elmer's Dream (for the kiddies)—a fun revolving ride also for the whole family.

- Time Machine (for the kiddies)—six small, colorful clock-like rides that revolve around a bigger clock, with kaleidoscope lights and flashing vivid colors that make for a truly appealing ride.

- Mainline Express (for the kiddies)—a train ride that can take 24 children and their accompanying adults on a leisurely ride around Dream Town's Timmy's Playground.

There are other attractions inside Dream Town, such as Timmy's Place and Child's Play where children can slide, roll, crawl, or just sit down and play with colorful balls in a gigantic play area. With Child's Play's safety features, parents can leave the kids on their own.

For teenagers who seek out-of-this-world adventures, Dream Town has a second level area for nearly all video games. Among the popular video games offered include Meta, Slug 3, Tekken

3, Strikers III 1945, Tekken tag Tournament, Dance Revolution 3rd Remix, Time Crisis II and Daytona Racing.

An ongoing treat at Dream Town is a tie up with Enchanted Kingdom in



Laguna that runs until Aug. 12. For every P250 purchase of one Dream Day ticket at Dream Town, you will be entitled to one complimentary Enchanted Kingdom Supersaver 10 ticket. To complement the tie-up, Enchanted Kingdom mascots Wizard and Princess Victoria will greet Dream Town guests every Sunday.

Favorite party venue

Like the other two recreational parks of RRC, Dream Town accepts reservations for birthday parties, school field trips and corporate events. "Dream Town

offers a worry-free environment—there's no worrying if it's going to rain, or if it's going to be too hot. Dream Town is fully air-conditioned and our people are always ready to provide the needed assistance so you can concentrate on having fun," assures Buñi.

No wonder Dream Town is fast becoming a favorite venue of school field trips and corporate family day events. No event is too big for Dream Town, as it can accommodate up to 2,000 guests. The entire Dream Town can be reserved for big events or corporate affairs.

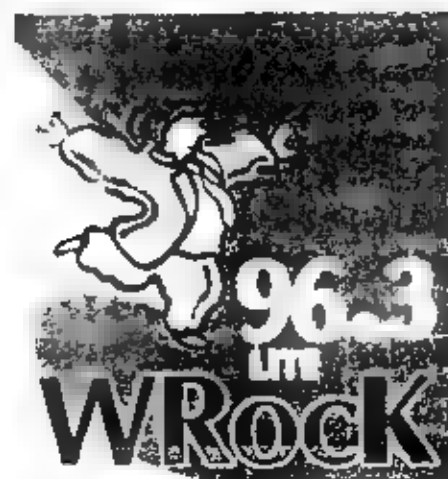
Recently, RRC's marketing team embarked on an active role to heighten client awareness. It has renewed business ties with various tour operators and has created a special package for school field trips for public and private schools. "We can also facilitate their trip here to other interesting venues like Nayong Pilapao, Metropolitan Museum or a visit to the Cebu Pacific hangar or Airlink training school for kids to see airplanes up close," says Buñi.

It seems the marketing effort has paid off. Right now, Dream Town is overwhelmed with reservations from different groups and companies who wish to hold their events at Robinsons' premier recreational destination. For more inquiries, please call 636-2911 or 633-7641 loc. 192 or 193.

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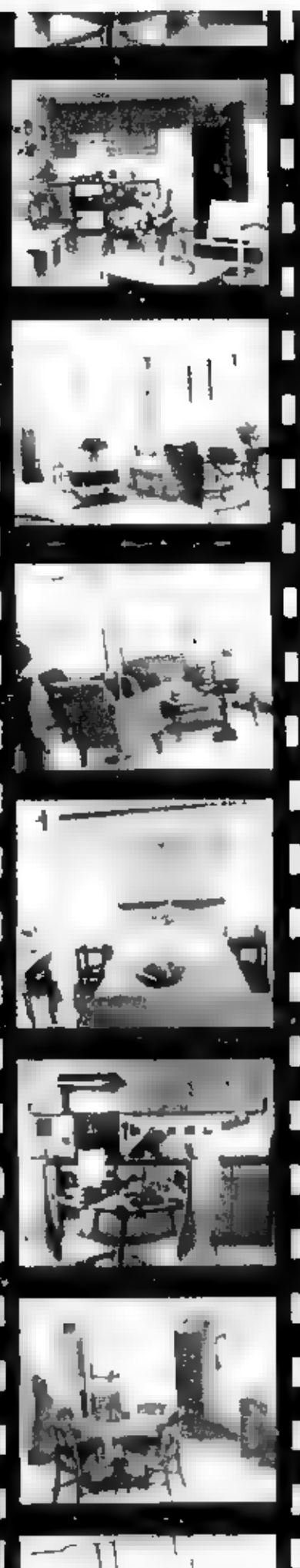
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TRAVEL

ROSARIO A. GARCILANO, Editor

So very Subic

In 'Little America,' outdoor and indoor activities combine to make a vacation truly memorable

TEXT AND PHOTOS
BY ELIZABETH LOLARGA

DESPITE the thorough washing of its face by rain spawned by a killer storm, Subic was lovelier the second time around.

The first time I was there it was a sunny first of May and Erop's hordes were storming Maacatang. While downtown Manila "burned," my sisters Suzy and Puky, the kids Kim, Ida and Marga, my Mom, my brother-in-law Rod and I piled into a new van that needed breaking in and headed for the Subic Bay Freeport (SBF).

What I recall of that Labor Day spent at the former home of the US Navy's 7th Fleet, is a large, gustatory nature. We stopped way past noon at the Golden Dragon Restaurant on Canal Road and feasted on chicken-thin-asparagus soup, Okinawa fried chicken, braised beef brisket with brown sauce, sautéed shrimp with green peas and cashew nuts, fried squid balls, *bihon gusado* with mixed meat, plain rice, and almond jelly for dessert—courtesy of Rod.

Grooming from the repast, we burned calories by shopping for groceries, chocolates and RTW at the Royal Subic Duty Free Mall.

We couldn't get past the adamant security guard at the *Inter* exclusive, membership-only Subic Bay Yacht Club for even, just a look-see. But I was able to take a shot of my siblings, daughters and niece by the marina with the anchored yachts and sailboats in the background.

It was nearly dusk when we got to the All Hands Beach along San Bernardino Road. The beach was filled with holiday makers like us. Except for Moin and Rod, we adults waded in while Ida did underwater somersaults. A black crow flew over our heads, disappearing into the sunset.

Earlier, my house partner in Baguio called on the cell phone to say "How can you think of having a good time while people are rioting in the streets?" Good question, but my sisters and I had planned on taking a break long before the so-called "Edsa Ties" broke out.

My second trip to Subic began on a Thursday, when typhoon "Ferin" was exiting the country but still pummeling it with wind and rain. Cherry Laxamana, marketing assistant of Eastgate Village Resort in SBF, met Suzy—my younger sister, a schoolteacher—and me at the main office in Mandaluyong City.

Music and monkeys

Aboard a Mercedes-Benz van driven carefully over the North Expressway's asphalt slick by Dodong Sarmiento, we headed for Zambales. Cherry and I immediately hit common ground with our love for music. (I had requested Dodong to tune the radio band to dzFE. When the reception got bad, he moved the band leftward to a jazz station.) A UP Concert Chorus alumna and now a mezzo soprano of the Alnost Six *a capella* jazz quintet, my hostess blew into her list and emitted horn-like sounds—her part in their group's rendition of "My One and Only Love."

We knew we were near "Little America" when the van moved along the zigzag road smoothly. If it weren't for the rain, we could've reached SBF under three hours.

At Meat Plus Café on Sampson Road we stopped for lunch. Cherry highly recommended and had the hamburger; semi-vegetarian Suzy went for the potato salad and split my order of Caesar's salad, scraping off the bacon bits. I, the unrepentant carnivore, chose tenderloin steak medium rare, with mixed veggies. The café takes pride in its main product—"US beef corn-fed to tenderness."

I found a smoking partner in Cherry who, while dragging on her Marlboro light, told me about the famous monkey that had made the roads along the rain forest its haunt. All of two feet and named Bardagol (Bardy for short), this macho simian has been known to enter parked vans and pick bananas and other eats from picnic baskets. The other monkeys are afraid of him. When he swaggers in, the rest scamper away and do not dare touch his loot.

Cherry is not so sure if it was the same Bardy who intimidated a forest ranger. The story goes that after stealing a packed lunch from a backpack, Bardy walked away with the man in pursuit. But the monkey suddenly turned his head and presented a nasty, fighting look that froze the ranger on his tracks.

The rule in the SBF area: If you run



THIS function room of the Triboca Bay Country Club was where ex-President Joseph Estrada reportedly had lunch hours before Claitissa Ocampo's explosive revelation.

over a monkey, drive away. Don't get down from your vehicle because the rest of the herd may jump on you, the killer of their kind.

Otherwise, these monkeys are friendly to humans. They know that when people are around, food is not too far behind.

On the drive up to Eastgate, we passed the world-class El Kabayo Equestrian Center in Binicuan Heights and saw Argentinian and Australian thoroughbreds grazing on the soggy grounds. There are 36 of these horses. For P450 an hour, you can hire one and a guide to take you to the forest and back.

According to vacation consultant Lingwi Valguina, the center is the site of national competitions and simple dressage events.

Model unit

Dada T. Rodriguez, the other Eastgate vacation consultant, showed me



THE MIRACLE of this beach (top) is that it is manmade. But no killer whale is jumping at Ocean Adventure (above).

around Lrnt 472-D on Mindoro Loop, the model unit where prospective clients are brought and where sales are closed. Prints of blood-spotted and great crimson carnations, double rose campana, common garden pink, great tobacco, majestic crown imperial, chalcidoman anemone and freycinetia look back at visitors from gilt-edged frames in the living, dining and bedrooms.

The Americans built this and the other units. But by the time construction was done, the renewal of the treaty governing the US bases in the country had been rejected. "Wow!" Dada exclaimed. "Pinoy is now enjoying them."

Every unit comes complete with all the imaginable appliances and amenities (including linen) that make bourgeois living such a delight, with a Laz-Y-Boy armchair thrown in, to speak nothing of kitchen stuff down to chopping board and knife sharpener.

Other features are 24-hour security, smoke detectors in the hallways, electric-razor outlets in the toilets, hot and cold potable water, dual voltage outlets, centralized air conditioning and a covered carport. SBF has its own power supply from Subic Power Corp. so when the Luzon grid trips, this part of Zambales is still lit.

There are 52 units, but only 10 are operational, Dada said. This vacation ownership she is pushing needs 50 members per unit. In a year there are 52 weeks. Each member is allotted only one week at Eastgate. The number of days can be split to four days in the summer and three during the Christmas season or the other way around. The remaining two weeks of the 52 are spent on the annual maintenance of the resort.

She added that the number of members was approaching 100 already. Membership is open to both Filipinos and expatriates.

Eastgate (for inquiries, call 726-2561 in Manila or 047-252-5813 in Subic) is a member of Interval International, a service-based network for resort exchanges. This means that the vacation owner can spend a week in Subic or exchange the time in any of 2,004 member-resorts in 83 countries.

So what's your pleasure this year? Riding a ferry down the Amazon River? Skiing in Aspen? Snorkeling in Hawaii? These are just some possibilities for the one who "owns" his/her vacation. (The only other Philippine resort affiliated with Interval International is Fairways & Bluewater Resort Golf and Country Club in Boracay.)

Financial Building (Subic Bay) Corp. built and developed Eastgate, Triboca Bay Country Club (an estate composed of the 21 Apec villas whose membership is by invitation only), Forest Hills Village Resort (132 rooms available for a daily rental of P4,900

each), The Village at Forest Hills (76 fully furnished homes for long-term lease) and Edgewater (45 exclusive beachfront residential units next to the Apec villas).

The developer's other resort affiliated with Interval is the World Tennis Center in Naples, Florida.

SBF's edge

After the tourist nightmares (e.g., the Abu Sayyaf kidnappings) in some parts of Mindanao and Palawan, SBF is now considered the safest spot in the Philippines and also the only place in the country where traffic rules and cleanliness are strictly observed, according to Eastgate general manager Nazario "Naz" Racoma.

Another advantage is the combination of outdoor and indoor activities. "In the morning you can go horseback riding in the mountains, and in the evening you can watch the latest movie," he said. "People of all ages have something to do here."

Dada listed the outdoor activities: jet skiing, kayaking, sailing, swimming, biking at Bicentennial Park, scuba diving (20 historical shipwrecks in the Bay), fishing on the waterfront along almost the entire stretch of Argonaut Highway, hopping by ferry to Grande and Chiquita Islands, whale-watching at Ocean Adventure, ecology and jungle tours, horseback riding, tennis, golfing at Subic Bay Golf and Country Club, watching a concert or playing baseball or football at Remy Field, go-karting, basketball and shooting at the firing range.



THE DINING table seats six.

The latest beach destination is Miracle Beach in Ilanin Forest West, so named because it is manmade, the creamy sand hauled in and laid out in 24 hours in time for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit during President Fidel Ramos' term.

At low tide one can walk from Grande to Chiquita, the water level reaching just below the knees. Eagle Ferry Landing charges P100 per head, exclusive of the entrance fee to Grande.

Lingwi mentioned that SBF is also home to 2,000 varieties of trees, including the famous Dao, one of the oldest trees in the country, rising to a height of 40 meters and with a diameter of 10 meters. You can go bird- or bat-watching too.

The indoor activities include bingo, bowling at Cosmic, the country's first state-of-the-art bowling center with

glow-in-the-dark lighting, shopping at various stores, restaurant and bar hopping—the list is endless. Despite SBF being touted about as a family destination, you can't take the kids everywhere. There are casinos, and where there is gambling, can the "guest relations officers" be far behind?

Anyway, I got a little shopping done—a small packet of wasabi-flavored peanuts from Sakura Japanese Store for the house partner stranded by the typhoon in El Nido, Palawan, and genuine Nike T-shirts for Kim, Ida and Marga going for only P190 each at The Outlet Store.

In the evening I gave up trying to call Baguio, where my mother was babysitting my children. The land lines there were down, and the cell phone proved useless. Rather than worry myself sick, I joined Cherry and Dodong at Dewey's bar, disco and videoclub on Dewey Avenue.

It was black-lighted inside, except for a spinning strobe light over the dance floor. My frosted glass of gin tonic gave off a luminous glow, the ice cubes looking like quartz crystals.

Encooned on a dark leather couch, the three of us picked the songs we wanted to sing and chased the storm away with each heartfelt rendition of such (immortal) as "Moon River" and "Girl From Ipanema."

We were just about the only customers except for a portly man at the bar and a couple necking two tables behind us. The GROs formed an appreciative audience of Cherry's singing.

We staggered out at the Cinderella hour, the SBF still well lit but desolate looking. Back in the comfort of the bedroom I enviously eyed Suzy snuggled peacefully under a sheet and a com-

forter. Thoughts of my isolated family in Baguio came in waves. I managed a fitful sleep, but was up at 5:30 a.m.

Morning girl

I started pacing the apartment. Then I

got into my shorts, T-shirt and walking sandals and decided to walk some more outdoors.

The rain had washed the asphalt road clean, and the forest behind the mostly uninhabited units was refreshingly green and emitting sounds from an assortment of unseen insects. Tree branches were strewn on the road beside Subic Homes, and a middle-aged man dressed like I was greeted me with a hearty "Good morning!" as I strode briskly on the opposite lane.

Perhaps because it was so quiet and people were few and far between, crows crossed the street, hopping delicately

instead of flapping their wings.

After working up a sweat I returned to the unit and switched on the ESPN channel in time to catch the Great American Figure Skating Challenge. Ice dancer Angela Nikodimov did the death spiral, and showed off double axes. Sarah Hughes, merely 15, paid tribute to choreographer Bob Fosse, dancing to "Bye, Bye, Blackbird" in a black, slinky, shiny unitard with matching gloves. But the best act, one that took my breath away, was Matt Savoie's relaxed gliding and spinning to Frank Sinatra's "Ebb Tide." He was simply garbed in a white, button-down shirt with rolled-up sleeves and black slacks, and his final gesture was bending gracefully to draw a circle on the ice. My morning was made!

I switched to ABS-CBN and caught the survey results on the question "Anong masarap gawin kapag umulan? (What is the most enjoyable activity when it's raining?)" The majority of the callers (1,405, or 86 percent) answered: "Matulog at kumain (Sleep and eat)."

Sure. But there was work ahead.

Seeing the sights

Dada took Suzy and me on a tour of the rest of SBF.

We passed the Subic International Airport, where flights from Hong Kong, Taipei, China, Kuala Lumpur and Singapore land; the Federal Express hub in the Asia-Pacific region; All Hands, Dugaree Beach (formerly for low-ranking US officers) and Officers Beach (self-explanatory), where it is shady even in summer because of the many coconut and albay trees and the decked mystery ship Orientalis, which was abandoned by the Cambodian passengers and crew on Subic Bay, no sign or message explaining why ("There might be contraband," Dada surmised).

We also saw stretches of asphalt fenced off for drag racing, street sweepers clearing debris, including sand and stones tossed by the white-capped waves, the rain forest, which the Americans protected to further shield their base; the controversy-marred Ocean Adventure. Miracle Beach (said to be ex-President Ramos' favorite jump-off point for diving before it was turned into a beach), and Tarlac Road, where the tall trees serve as homes to fruit and flat-headed bats.

Soon it was time to repair to the fine-dining area of the Triboca Bay Country Club on Lower Cubi where club services officer Luis "Louie" Lazarena hosted lunch prepared by chef Antonio Florendo. (I had the French onion soup, mackerel belly a la jillo and



COZY and comfy is this bedroom in Eastgate's model unit.

mango *crème brûlée*, Cherry, the same soup and seafood, Suzy, a salmon sandwich and a fresh fruit platter.)

Nearly percent of the club's 100 members are Filipinos, and the rest are Japanese, Americans, Chinese and British. Louie told me. Confidentiality is part of the membership package, so I skinned through the list of birthday celebrators for the month of July and noted a virtual Who's Who of the country's rich and powerful.

They're opening up the club to more members on a limited basis (as high as \$50, because, as Naz said later, they want to "share a piece of Filipino history with other Filipinos." The former membership fee of P875,000 (good for 50 years) will be pared further.

"We'll stop selling shares," Louie added later. "We'd like to keep the club's services as personal as possible. The water knows if a member wants his water ice cold or lukewarm, or his one does the readm for 30 minutes before lying down for a massage. We remember them on their birthdays and anniversaries."

Louie knows all the members, except for two who paid for their villas up front. "Talk of excess liquidity," he quipped. "They must have really deep pockets. Only their relatives have come by to check on the villas."

Each of those villas was built at a cost of \$1 million for the Apec summit. But no two are alike, whether in facade or interiors.

Owners can go to the club to swim in the four-foot-deep pool (no need for a life guard—the trend in international resorts), work out in the gym which has top-of-the-line equipment, breathe pure oxygen in the Oxygen Room, the first in the country, and so on.

Sighing, I realized that the lifestyle was beyond my and my sister's reach. And we went home tired and sated from the decadence overload.



THE RAIN forest is a benign presence in the vacation hideaway. Below, waves foam along San Bernardino Road.

All is set for Shahani NCCA 'homecoming'

(From page E1)

government?

Beautiful fiction



A FUNNY footnote to the CCP transition is a marginal note by Endriga on

the copy of the presidential appointment letter that was sent by facsimile transmission to the old CCP board. Endriga wrote:

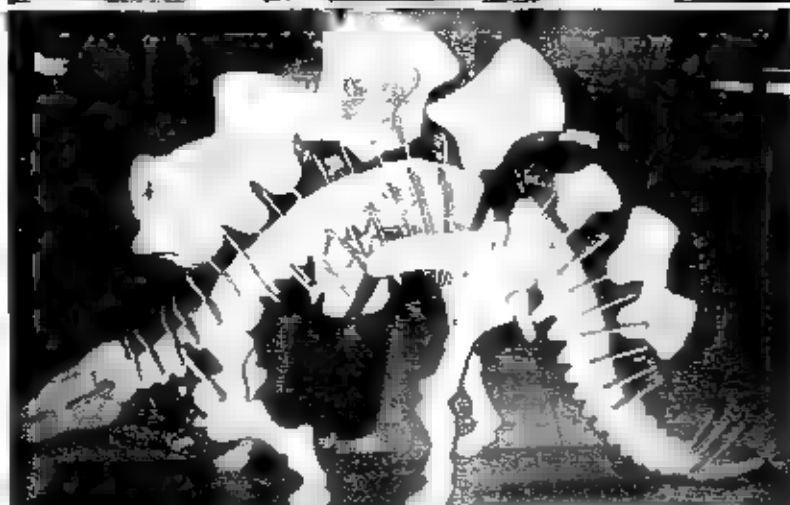
The Board (the legitimate Board) met July 13 and conducted an election that resulted in the same list as those contained in the appointment letter. The election was in accordance with the (CCP) charter."

Obviously, Endriga was trying to correct the impression that they had recovered their old positions not by virtue of the CCP charter, but by presidential fiat. Of course, their election came a day after the presidential appointment. The issue is no chicken-and-egg conundrum.

The developments at the CCP and NCCA should at least drive home the point that top appointments to the two agencies are a presidential prerogative—no matter how much artists and cultural workers invoke independence. If board positions in government banks and financing institutions that have their own charters are appointed by the President and if even the chairs and commissioners of constitutional commissions are appointed by the President, how can cultural agencies feel they are independent and should name their own top men by acclamation? No one's about to rouse them from their beautiful dream.

NSO Helpline
no help

THE NATIONAL Statistics Office



DATE WITH DINOSAURS. Top celebrities graced the premiere of "Jurassic Park III," the latest in Steven Spielberg's hit dinosaur-scare series, at the SM Megamall Cinema. In the audience was Purefoods basketball import David Wood who took the chance to spend quality time with his beautiful family—wife Angela and sons Caleb, Joseiah and Moses. Museo Pambata also exhibited dinosaur skeletons. The "Jurassic Park III" promotion will tour SM malls until Aug. 16.



Helpline Plus may be ripping people off, according to writer Eric Cabahug. "They charge P175 a pop for every copy of an

NSO-authenticated birth or marriage certificate printed in special NSO paper and they give you all sorts of guarantees that they never fulfill," he said. "First-

time applicants are the specific preys in the scam."

Cabahug applied recently for two NSO-authenticated copies of my birth certificate. He received the reply on the 17th working day despite the guarantee that the processing and reply would take 10-15 working days. The letter said their verification had negative results, meaning NSO does not have the record. He was advised

to get the document from the local civil registry and re-apply with the NSO later.

"The fact is NSO has a record of my birth certificate," Cabahug said. "I had been able to obtain a photocopy the two times I requested for it previously—the first time in 1997, the second time only last year. Now they tell me they don't have it and I would just have to re-apply, which would mean another cashout. I don't think so!"

Cabahug has already filed a formal complaint with NSO administrator Carmelita Ereeta, in

provide updates on the status of his application and the arrogance of the hotline's personnel when he himself asked for an update.

FREE SPEECH

THIS concerns the article which appeared in your section (PDI Lifestyle, 07/10/01), headlined "Look, Ma, an ortho in the mall."

May I just state that I received training from the graduate program in orthodontics of the University of the Philippines? I bring this up to prevent any possible misinterpretation of the article regarding my training. I would like to reiterate that I am proud of my training at UP.

In the interest of the public, I also wish to clarify that orthodontic fees may vary widely, depending on the nature and severity of the case, the length of treatment and the type of appliances to be used for the case. It is therefore determined on a case-to-case basis.

Finally, misinterpretation may also be possible regarding orthodontic practitioners who are not members of the Association of Philippine Orthodontists. It is clear in the article that I was not speaking for the association, but if only to prevent any misinterpretation, allow me to state that non-members of APO may very well also be capable of doing good orthodontic work.

Thank you and more power to your newspaper

JOCELYN L. TAN, DDM



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Sunday LIFE

JESUELE-FAYLONA

Fairy-tale romance
leads to a pre
in a castle
in Italy

The bride
wore a hand-
embroidered
and fully
beaded
Filipiniana
piña gown by
Ben Farrales
no less; the
groom,
an Armani
tuxedo



NEWLYWEDS Robert and Barbara Angelica Jesuele

ON APRIL 21, investment banker Barbara Angelica Faylona married lawyer Robert Jesuele of Los Angeles, California. The wedding was held in Los Angeles at the St. Martin of Tours Church on Sunset Boulevard. The reception was held at an Italian villa in Sierra Madre, about 40 minutes away from the church, near Pasadena.

A FAIRY-TALE/p.F2



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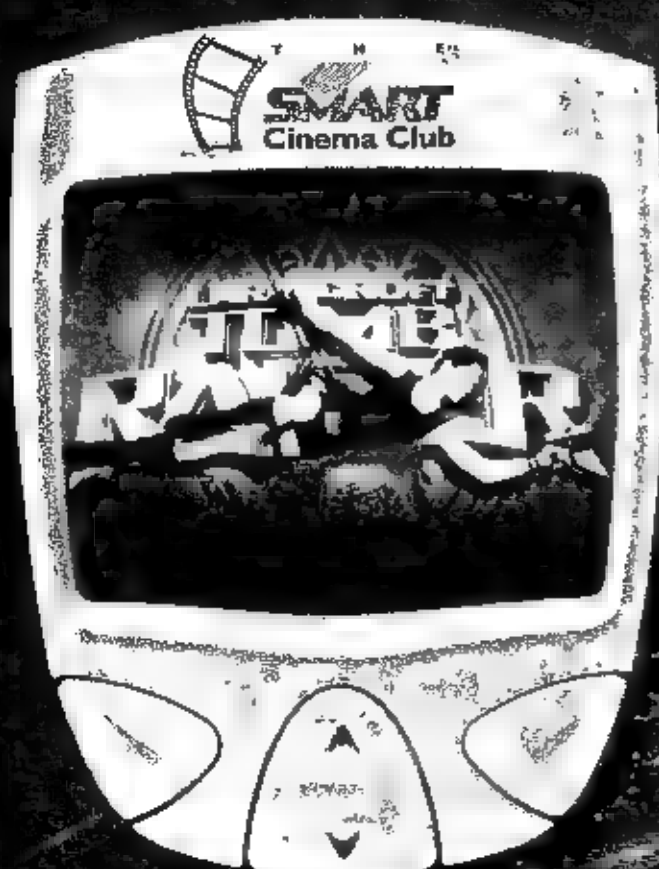
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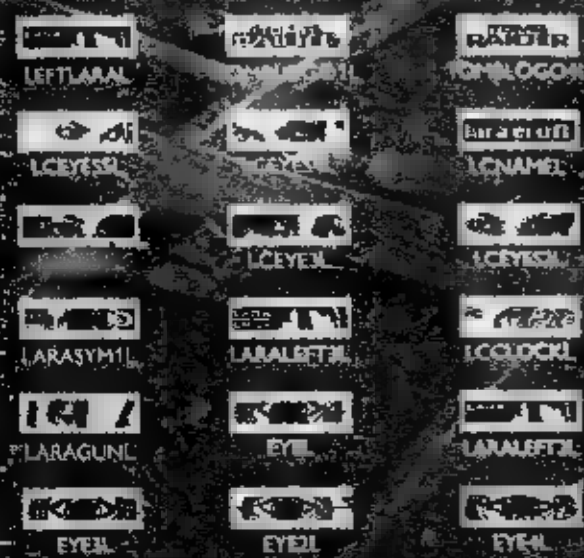
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THE RECEPTION held in the courtyard of an Italian villa

Fairy-tale romance leads to a proposal in a castle in Italy

(From page F1)

Baba is the daughter of prominent Manila lawyer Donato T. Faylona and Ma. Cristina Filamor. Rob is the only son of Leonard and Rose Jesucel of Palos Verdes, California.

Baba, an investment banker formerly based in Munich, Germany, met Rob, an entertainment lawyer from Los Angeles, on a plane from Paris to Rome. Rob was on his way back from the Cannes Film Festival, where some of his biggest clients had participated. Their yet-setting fairy-tale romance culminated in a proposal of marriage atop an old castle in Tuscany, Italy, last year, where Rob, in his nervousness, dropped the engagement ring down the hill. Thankfully the ring lodged itself in the parapet of the tower, where it was hastily retrieved and placed properly on Baba's finger.

Baba wore an exquisite Filipiniana *piña* gown by couturier Ben Farralles, hand-embroidered and fully beaded. Rob wore an elegant tuxedo by Armani. Baba's gown was made of four separate pieces—a sleeveless gown, an overblouse with full, flowing sleeves, a *pañuelo* and a long, elaborate train, all of which were fully embroidered, fully *callado* and fully beaded. The bridesmaids' gowns also were by Farralles.

It was a truly beautiful ceremony. There were neither wedding sponsors nor secondary sponsors like those in Manila. The fathers gave the readings and the mothers gave the offertory.



BABA and Rob cut their cake.



WITH THE BRIDE'S parents, Donato and Ma. Cristina Faylona, and sisters Donna, Camille and Rissa



WITH THE GROOM'S parents, Leonard and Rose Jesucel

The groomsmen, Rob's close friends Scott, Cerni and Jeff from high school, college and law school, and the bridesmaids, Baba's sisters Camille and Rissa, stood as witnesses at the wedding vows and during communion. The maid of honor, eldest sister Donna, and the best man Mark knelt beside the couple throughout the ceremony.

The reception was at Villa A. Verno at the foot of the San Gabriel mountains in the city of Sierra Madre. The villa was transformed into a paradise filled with fresh flowers, greens and candles.

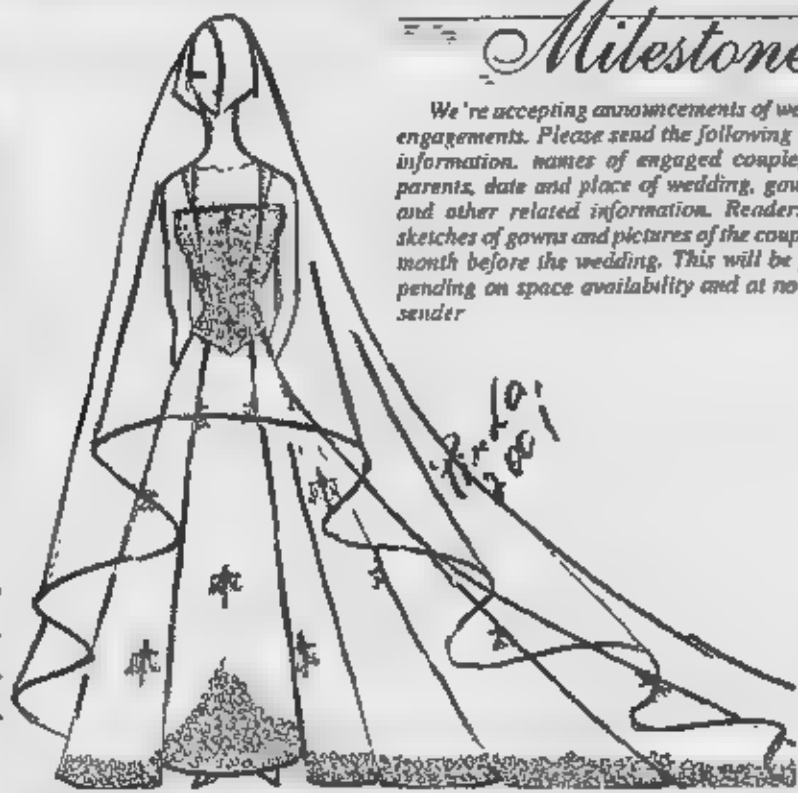
The evening was filled with love, laughter and warm friendship. Rob's relatives from the East Coast flew in especially for the occasion, as did Baba's relatives from Manila and Australia. The couple's friends from all over Europe and the United States also came to join in the celebration.



DETAILS of the bride's exquisitely hand-embroidered Filipiniana gown by Ben Farralles

Milestones

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple at least a month before the wedding. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.



MUNDO-VILLENA

Niño Mundo, son of Edgardo and Conchita Mundo, will wed Gail Villena, daughter of Marlon Lim, on Aug. 4 at San Agustin Church in Intramuros, Manila. Reception follows at the Westin Philippine Plaza ballroom. Principal sponsors are headed by Mayor Rey Malonzo and Alfonso Ng Jr., among others. The bride will wear an off-white, sleeveless, princess-cut gown. The see-through top and back bodice embellished with sunburst type of beads has a 4-yard detachable train, designed and executed by Eddie Baddeo. Baddeo also made the wedding ensemble in magenta, mauve and crimson lake family of colors as motif.

SENDIONG-TORAL

Jeanette Toral, daughter of Francisco Garchitorea Toral and Virginia Pan Toral, exchanged vows with Arturo Sendiong, son of the late Abraham Avila Sendiong and Avelina Chispa Sendiong, on May 12 at the Mary Immaculate Church of Moonwalk Village, Las Piñas City. The bride wore a creation of Tito Franco, a princess-cut shantung silk gown, scattered with rhinestones and sugar cut beads embellished from the neckline cascading down the hips, with leaves and vine design. Entourage also wore gowns by Tito. Reception followed at the parish patio.



LEUNG-UNG

Miriam Ung, daughter of Mr. and Ms. Paul Ung, and Merrill Leung, son of Mr. and Ms. James Leung, will tie the knot on Aug. 6 at the Westpoint Grey Baptist Church, Vancouver, British Columbia.

Eric Pineda designed the bride's gown using Thai silk. Embroidered and traced with caviar beads, the bodice features a specially designed monogram bearing the couple's initials. It is embellished with floral-shaped Swarovski crystals. The gown has a detachable train and an 8-m long veil scattered with paillettes. The entourage's gowns are in rust orange shantung silk with beaded "firefly" appliques. Reception will follow at the Klein Seafood Restaurant, Richmond, BC.



GARBES MEJIA

Darrell Theodore B. Garbes, son of Diomedes and Malou Garbes, and Sharon D. Mejia, daughter of Ernesto and Elizabeth Mejia, will exchange vows today at the Holy Cross Parish Chapel II, Clarkfield, Pampanga.

The bride wears an off-shoulder, corsete style in pista material embellished with Swarovski stones and Callada embroidery designed by Manny Dixon Ocampo.



TIU-QUI

Aileen Qui, daughter of Mr. and Ms. Julian Qui, will walk down the aisle of the Basilica of San Sebastian to wed Cris Tiu, son of Mr. and Ms. Cresente Tiu, on Aug. 5.

She will wear a gown in double ply ivory Thai silk created by Eric Pineda. It has a detachable twin train with a sunburst beadwork pattern. The bustier and skirt are sprinkled with caviar beads and Swarovski crystals. Floral rhinestone clips will hold her 10-meter veil of illusion tulle.

The entire entourage will wear gowns in plum iridescent silk taffeta. Reception will follow at the Rizal Ballroom of the Shangri-La Hotel, Makati.



ORPILLA-MEJIA

Michael C. Orpilla, son of Antonio and Fely Orpilla of Caba, La Union, exchanged vows with Nelly O. Mejia, daughter of Ronald and Evangelista Mejia of Baguio City, on July 18 at the United Church of Christ in the Philippines, West Side Burnham Park, Baguio City. Reception followed at the Supreme Hotel along Magsaysay Avenue. The couple are both employed at Texas Instruments (Philippines), Baguio City.

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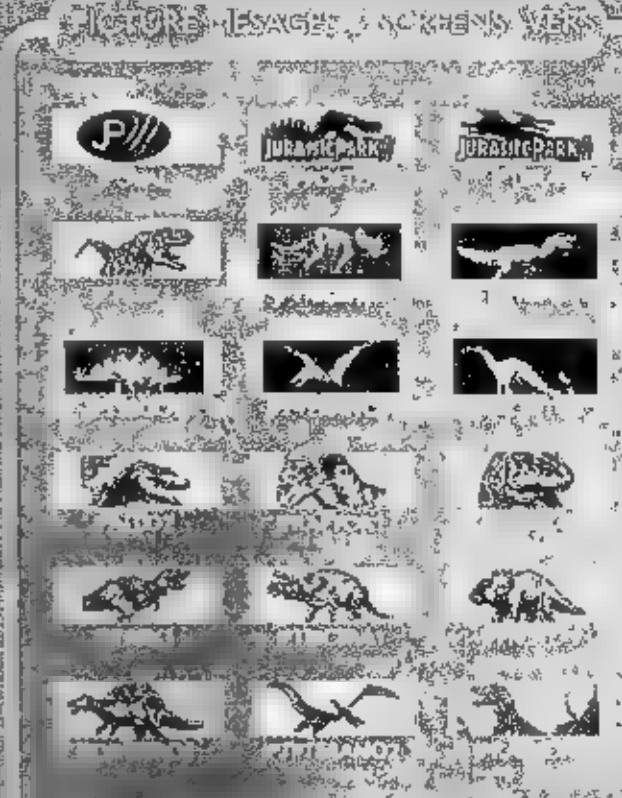
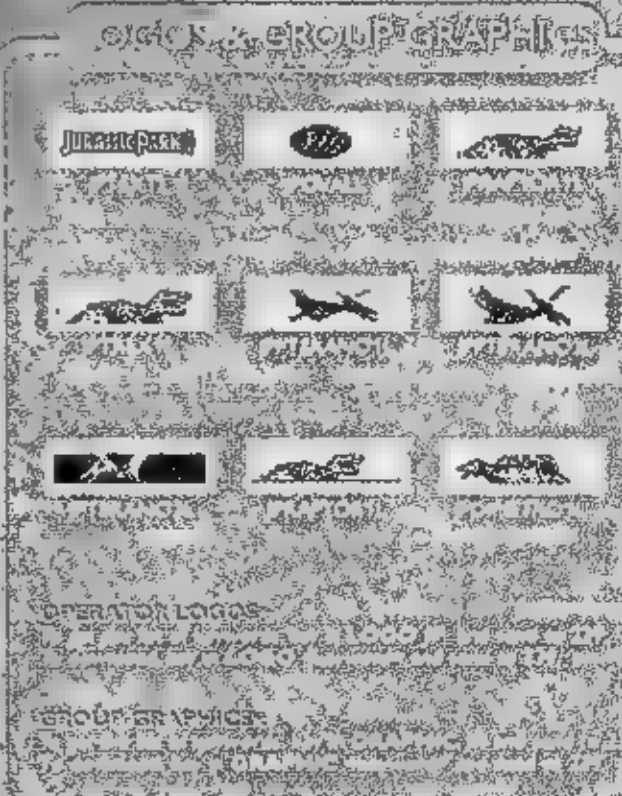
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How to get there: From EDSA northbound, turn right to Quezon Ave. Take the Skiptel Road & turn right to Commonwealth Ave. Go straight ahead past Iglesia ni Cristo and Ever Gotesco Mall. As you see St. Peter's Parish on the right side of the road, get ready to turn right to Betasan Rd. marked by the name Sandigan Bayan Bldg. Follow Serra Monte's direction signs (Aldea Verde is inside Serra Monte Villas) & turn right to Betasan Road Extension. Then turn left upon seeing North View Gate signage.

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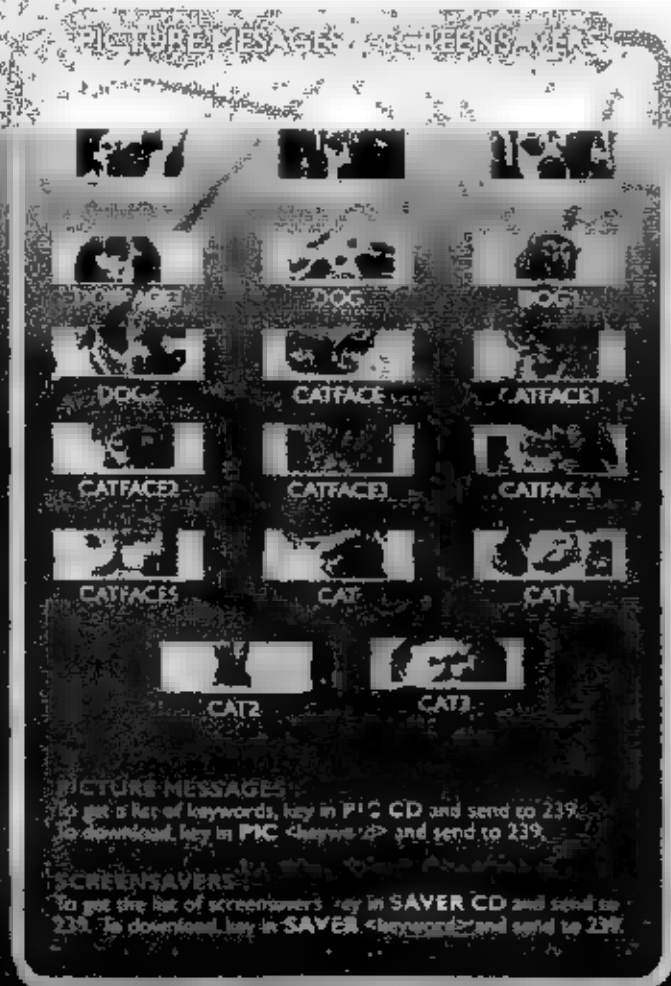
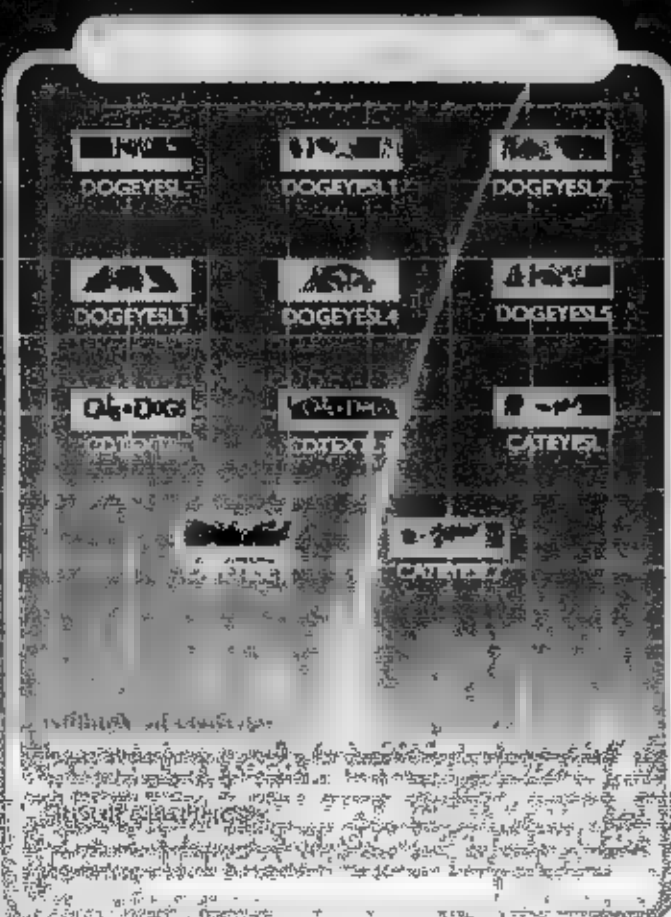


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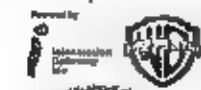
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ON AUGUST 1, 1991, THE PUT WILL PUT!

She has an affair with a politician

DEAR Tita Dulce,

I work in an office, and have two kids. My marriage was not made in heaven. I realized that from day one, but my great love for my family made me hold on.

I became active in a nongovernmental organization, and that is where my problem began. To

LIVE AND
LET LIVE

Tita Dulce



get our projects going, I had to deal a lot with politicians. One of them took a fancy on me and, before I knew it, I was trapped in sin.

He came at a time when I was financially drained and my relationship with my husband was not going well. The politician offered help when it was most needed and I had no one else to turn to. I tried to resist but he was very persistent.

Sometimes I ask God why this had to happen to me. I have been a good mother, a good daughter and a good sister. I seem to have spent my life praying. Maybe it is true that the closer to the Lord we want to be, the more trials we have to go through.

I'm just hoping to see a rainbow after this nightmare. But my conscience has been haunting me and I hope you'll enlighten me before I hurt myself.

ADULTEROUS

After all your efforts to be good and close to God, it is understandable to feel disappointed that He would let this happen to you.

But God did not really "let this happen to you." What He did was give you free will, the freedom to choose and to act accordingly. And it's quite a generous gift—in fact, that freedom is so complete we may even use it to choose to stop loving Him. It allows you to make your own definitions of right and wrong, of good or evil.

And I guess that was just what you did, you used your free will to redefine your concepts of right and wrong when that politician offered temptations.

We can't change what has happened. What your conscience is asking you now is to atone for your sin. And in that regard, you may want to use another of God's gift. His promise that He will pardon our sins when we sincerely ask His forgiveness.

He will forgive you, no matter how grave your sin is. So don't doubt Him now when He says that if you ask for forgiveness, He will give it.

You asked why, of all people, it had to happen to you. I don't think we need God to find the answers.

There is your unhappy marriage for instance. Your dissatisfaction with your husband has weakened your defenses against temptations. Then came this other man, acting like a knight in shining armor, promising to rescue you from your debtors.

And there is your civic organization, too. It showed that you could work hard, succeed and earn praises you've never heard in your home.

The organization proved itself more rewarding than your marriage.

You can not erase what happened to your marriage, what happened in that organization and what happened between you and that opportunistic donor. But you can make things better.

First, heal your conscience. Confess your sin and do your penance.

Then, leave that organization and "go back" to your children and your husband. Go back home. "Going home" means working harder to improve your marriage. Maybe you've worked very hard at it before and still failed, but you probably also worked at it by yourself. This time, get help from professionals—marriage counselors, your priests or ministers.

I won't say it will be easy—it will, probably be as hard if not harder than before. But it's worth it, *hugs*.

When you joined your husband in marriage you did so under a sacrament. So give up that organization now (and other diversions from home). Your resignation from that club might deprive it and your community of a valuable worker, but they will survive. We can't say the same about your marriage if you resign from it.

E-mail: trudice@netcom.net or send letters to P.O. Box 2353, Mekan CPO 1263 Makati City, or PDI, China Rocks Avenue corner Yague and



PPS Info Box

For our pediatricians and our public to know

Carmelo A. Alfiler, M.D.

President, Philippine Pediatric Society, Inc.

Let's talk about...

IMMUNIZATION

The Philippine Pediatric Society, Inc. (PPS), Pediatric Infectious Disease Society of the Philippines (PIDSP), Philippine Vaccination Foundation (PVF) and Aquagem Professional Marketing Services, Inc. join hands together to share with the Filipino community the latest immunization schedule designed specifically for infants, children and adolescents that will hopefully help uplift their health and well being.

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Immunization programs have been extremely effective in reducing the risk of disease. Diphtheria and poliomyelitis, tetanus, measles and whooping cough occur far less frequently than before immunization became universally available.

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Age in	weeks	4	6	8	10	14	16	18	20	24	months	6	8	9	12	18	20	24	years	2	3	4	6	12	>12
BBC																									
Hepa B+																									
DPT**																									Td
OPVMPV*																									
HiB																									
Measles																									
Vaccella																									
MMR																									
Hepa A**																									

LEGEND:

- First/only immunization
- Second immunization
- Third immunization
- Booster dose/s

* First two doses are at least 4 weeks apart

* Primary doses are at least 4 weeks apart

** Doses are 6-12 months apart

C -- catch-up dose for MMR

Td -- Tetanus and diphtheria vaccine

** For other vaccines please consult your pediatrician

Approved by the PPS National Board of Trustees on June 21, 2001

The Educational Information is made possible through a grant from AQUAGEM PROFESSIONAL MARKETING SERVICES, INC.

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Hot new BMW-C1, an increase in Glorietta's parking fee and how to beat the tough times

BY ANTON SAN DIEGO

MUST-HAVE motorcycle—BMW's C1. Now that local motorcycle riders have the same rights as car owners regarding the use of the highways, this may be something they would just need. Bavarian Motors probably was in a funky mood when it decided to design this—a car scooter or an urban personal commuter.

The manufacturer's intention was to combine a motorcycle with an automobile. It offers weather protection and safety comparable to a car. The C1 features a full-sized windscreen and wiper. The rear can double as a passenger seat or luggage rack. Optional equipment include ABS, radio and CD player, navigation system, cell-phone holder and anti-theft device. For more information, check out their website at www.bmw.com.

Parking fee or fine. I was at the Glorietta mall last weekend to see a movie. Since I often visit the place, I was quite surprised with the increase in parking fees. Although it is only P5 (from P20 to P25) and less than the parking fee at a hotel, as a consumer I feel that it was bad timing. Aren't we suffering enough with all the increases in food and gas prices? I really do not know if it's a parking fee or parking fine. If you spend at least four hours in the mall (read, seeing a movie, having a snack and shopping), you will have to fork out P50, somehow a big addition to what you already spent at the mall. For some it may not be much. But who wants to pay more when it takes hours to find a parking space and you get stuck in traffic near the mall?

Our peso has been stretched to the point that a hundred-peso bill seems to be worth only P10. I asked someone who works at Glorietta the reason behind the increase and he said it was due to higher operational costs. I wondered: Is it because of the hiring of more guards or the new plants at the parking lot? It seems like everything is still the same. But despite all this, it's the consumer who suffers. Filipinos should be more vigilant about their rights as consumers.

Luna by Pia Regala-Hebron. Manila fashion experienced an adrenaline rush last July 26. Pia Regala-Hebron unveiled her gaga collection to an SRO crowd for Luna at the Makati Shangri-La. Congratulations on a job well done!

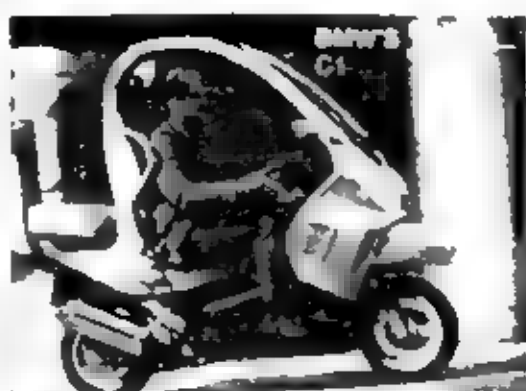
Why the military look is out. The military look in Manila has yet to reach fever pitch but it seems that's not ever going to happen. Last Monday, I read the Metro section of this paper and found out why this fad never took off. A Makati City police chief ordered "the arrest of all people wearing fatigue or camouflage attire to prevent bank robberies in the city." A violation of this law (read: Article 179 of the penal code) is punishable with 1-6 months' imprisonment.

Must-buy CDs. There are three CDs now out in the market that you must buy. They are "Cafe del Mar 8," "Fashion TV" (the same one on TV) and "Moulin Rouge." I particularly love the last one. The movie is spectacular and the songs are just great. Most of the songs are old standards like Elton John's "Your Song," Randy Crawford's "One Day I'll Fly Away" and the love medley that includes "On the Wings of Love" and "I Will Always Love You."

10 ways to save money during tough times. Everything is so expensive these days. This week, TNT gives you tips to weather the economic crunch. We are in for a rough ride and these may come in handy. Enjoy!

1. Whenever you go out, try to emulate the young ones by ordering only beer and sipping it slowly. 2. Go vintage (very chic abroad) and say that your 10-year-old blouse or shoes is vintage. Houston or John Lobb. 3. Make paper boats and float them along the Pasig River, hoping that the President will read your requests, too. 4. Smoke loco cigarettes, which are cheaper than blue seal; both are unhealthy anyway. 5. Chat via the Internet and fantasize that whoever you are chatting with is good-looking. It may not be true but it's much better than going on a date (which is more costly) that ends on a sour note. 6. Move back to your parents' home, eat their food, borrow their car and use their electricity. 7. Have dinner or hang out at your friend's home. 8. Stop going to Starbucks and Seattle's Best, switch to barako or instant coffee. 9. Use your regular phone lines or borrow your friend's cell phone. It's the season to be a leech! 10. Pray that this economic crunch will be over or else we will be doing the above-mentioned for a long time.

Diary of Constance Brooke San Lorenzo Pendleton: Divorce Filipino style. Our intrepid



socialite talks about her favorite topic, herself and something close to her heart, the over-heated divorce bill.

"I've been getting tons of mail asking questions about myself and my background. When I get the time I promise I will tell you a bit more about myself. But, for the moment, here's a brief summary: I am fortysomething. I am a Filipino and I was happily married to an American for over 20 years. I have lived all over the world but primarily in New York. I know what you're thinking, but no, I did not get a

HOT/ p.G3



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FROM Pia Regala-Hebron's Luna 2001 collection, worn by Annette Coronel-Cruz

Wedding unites 2 prominent Cebu families

SHERYL Osmeña and Carlo Borromeo, both in their early 20s, chose the intimacy of the chapel at the Archbishop's Palace for their wedding one Saturday afternoon. She is the daughter of Jose Mari and Crystal Osmeña; he is the son of Peter and Joy Borromeo. The marriage united two of Cebu's oldest and most prominent families.

Msgr. Jose Borces celebrated the nuptial mass. Principal sponsors were Augusto Sagula, Jose Ma. Miranda, Vicente Ventulan, Mesdames Flora Borromeo, Reine Casas and Esperanza Osmeña. Shelda Osmeña was her sister's maid of honor while Carlo had his brother Peter Borromeo Jr. as best man.

Bridesmaids were Ma. Cristina Osmeña, Kathleen Borromeo and Marie Gabrielle Borromeo while groomsmen were Armand Paredes, Anthony Qujano and Junnell Codilla. Daniel Borromeo was ring and coin bearer and Micah del Mar, Erika Gonzalez and Angelique Gonzalez were flower girls.

Attending Carlo and Sheila during the rites were Arnulfo Nadela IV and Michelle Mae Alfonso as candle sponsors, Luke Caraga and Monica Allix as veil sponsors, and Vance Podutan and Maricel Osmeña as cord sponsors. Reception was at the Borromeo family's Montebello Villa Resort.

First to arrive was Cebu City's first lady, Margot Vargas Osmeña, with her sister-in-law, Minnie Osmeña, and their cousin Carmen del Prado. Seated with them were Sheryl's grandparents, lawyer Ramon Osmeña and Presentacion Serafica Osmeña. At a

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Jaime Picornell

nearby table sat Carlo's grandparents, Justice Jesus Borromeo and Florinda Saguin Borromeo, with members of their family, among them Zelia Borromeo who was congratulated for the excellent buffet menu. She spent precious time preparing the whole thing, and probably cooking it, too.

Everyone was talking about the anecdote told by Monsignor Borces. He recalled his first mass as a newly ordained priest. His sponsors included Carlo's great-grandfather Justice Fortunato Borromeo, and Doña Esperanza Limjap Osmeña, wife of President Sergio Osmeña, and Sheryl's great grandmother.

New Chilean consul

A PARTY was held at the country club to celebrate the recent appointment of David Graham Ugarte as Chile's honorary consul in Cebu. The Chilean Ambassador to the Philippines Doña Carmen Lynam N., and the embassy's commercial attaché Frank Tessler came to Cebu for the occasion. The party was attended by David's pretty wife, June Alegre Ugarte, his proud mom, Evelyn Graham Ugarte, as well as elder brother Luis Ugarte (he is Mexico's honorary consul in Cebu) and his wife Janet.

This was the second visit of Ambassador Lynam to Cebu. Aside from David's installation, she had much else to do. She had dinner at David's, the restaurant the new consul owns, with media girls Maria Paloma Sandiego, business editor of the Freeman Daily, and Irene Sino Cruz of the Cebu Daily News. David's, which offers excellent nouvelle cuisine, will also be the site of the Chilean consulate in Cebu. On another occasion, Ambassador Lynam had lunch at the Beehive with Sabino Daput, president of the Cebu Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and other officers of the organization.

Lynam first visited Cebu a few weeks before David's installation. She came with her dear mother, Doña Nora de Narvaez, and they stayed at the Shangri-La. They spent a whole day picnicking at Manibago Bluewater, and later attended a dinner hosted by Joe and Chingay Utzurum at the Casino Español de Cebu. The dinner was attended by scintillating writer Jo Gaboya Magsaysay and Cecilia Rodriguez who sat beside Señora Narvaez and chattered the night away in Spanish, both of them speaking nothing else. On another evening, Doña Carmen and Doña Nora had dinner with Annie and Luis Abotiz. He was the former hon-



CARLO and Sheryl Borromeo with their parents, Jose Mari and Crystal Osmeña (left) and Peter and Joy Borromeo



IRMA Atillo and Teresing Mendezona



AMBASSADOR Carmen Lynam N. and her mother, Doña Nora de Narvaez (seated), with Jo Magsaysay, Joe and Chingay Utzurum and Cecilia Rodriguez

orary Chilean consul here

Bougainvillea party

MOONLIGHT and bougainvilleas can be enough reasons to throw a party. Well, an intimate little dinner such as the one Mendezona gave at the verandah of her home in Beverly Hills, in honor of dear friends Irma and Bobby Atillo and their son Niko who were visiting from California. Teresing's bougainvilleas seem to be in perpetual bloom. Any time of the year you visit her home you find a profusion of white or pink or a combination in pots in or out of the house, in bushes all over the garden or its hedges to define the property. Imagine them with a full moon above—who needs dinner?

But one cannot refuse what Teresing prepares with the fastidiousness of a Cordon Bleu chef for they are all so good and so well presented. They are also accompanied by fine wines and sparkling conversation. Everyone else present that evening agreed—Tessie Javier Peri Villarta, Mary Ann Soliven and Harry Campbell.

All admired the table settings in blue linen, candles glowing on crystal vases, and the centerpieces of oranges and yellow and mauve orchids. No wonder Teresing is Cebu's most sought after consultant for weddings, balls, and other events. Coming up on Oct. 14 is the golden wedding anniversary of Rodrigo and Julie Gandiano for which she is designing a beautiful setting at the newly opened latest venture of Ayala—City Sports Club Cebu. It's like a royal palace.



CHILE'S Ambassador Carmen Lynam N. June and David Ugarte, and commercial attaché Frank Tessler

Lucky motorists win vacation packages

THE "SUMMERUSH" grand draw at the Hard Rock Café brought rewards to loyal Shell Velocity patrons, who won vacation packages and premium gift items.

During the promo, Shell Velocity gave 200 lucky motorists spotted by roving patrols of partner radio stations 88.3 Culuha, 89.1 Wave, 89.9 TM, 99.5 RT and 103.5 K-Lite vacation packages to hot destinations and free invites to the "SummeRush" party. Sticker activities were also held at Shell service stations.

Capping the "SummeRush" promo was a fun-filled and jam-packed party to celebrate Shell Velocity's success. TM's Miles, RT's Angel, K-Lite's Blade and Wave's Enc from partner radio stations hosted the grand party, which was broadcast live over 99.5 RT, and kept the crowd entertained. Top bands True Faith and South Border performed.

Shell Turbocharger players Rob Wannright, Jaquim Hawkins, Michael Hrabak and Shell Velocity brand manager Armon Chong drew the winner of the round-trip ticket for two to Boracay. Pilipinas Shell retail general manager Cesar Romero drew the grand prize winner who will go to Bali, Indonesia.

Francisco Obina Jr. of Quezon won the Bali trip. E. Tan Shell service station owner Elizabeth Tan got a trip for two to Boracay while the station's service crew received a gift check worth P10,000.



ROB Wannright and Michael Hrabak with DJ Miles of TM



DJ Angel of RT and DJ Blade of K-Lite with lucky motorist



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PER DTI-MCA PERMIT NO. 2392 SERIES OF 2001

Hot new BMW-C1, an increase in Glorietta's parking fee...

(From page G1)

divorce—I am a widower I was educated in America and England. I have two children. I moved back to Manila about two years ago (but you know all that already).

"I have long had an intense love affair with Brannvin, a Swedish vodka. I like sex just as much (probably more) as the average 19-year-old. I simply adore shopping, particularly for clothes and jewelry. Honesty, grace and elegance are very important words and concepts to me. I am pro-choice. I favor divorce. I am an avid defender of consumer rights, particularly my own. I hate pretension. I hate stupid people. I like money more than anyone but as my mama taught me, it is also important how one makes the money. I loathe people who take what is not theirs or who do not deliver what they are supposed to deliver.

"In short, I am like so many people—a woman simply trying to do her best to do the right thing while living her life to the fullest. Some people (particularly of the Mare variety) have called me a deeply flawed, semi-alcoholic, sex-crazed, arrogant, over-opinionated bitch. I may be all that but I tend to think and call it like I see it and my heart's in the right place, which is more than I can say for them. So there.

"I am greatly disturbed by all the recent pronouncements regarding divorce. The divorce bill does not seek to butt its nose into Church business. It concerns itself only with the civil rites of marriage—which, as we all know, were manmade. If one happens to be a Catholic, then one must also seek an annulment from the Church—and that certainly is God's purview—over which this divorce bill has absolutely no jurisdiction.



"MOULIN Rouge" CD

"The Philippines may be overwhelmingly Catholic but it is hardly universally Catholic. Besides, as pointed out earlier, a Catholic must also obtain an annulment in order to remarry so why impose Catholic doctrine on a civil institution and therefore, all Filipino citizens—many of whom are non-Catholic? I think the President has to remember that she is President of all Filipinos and not just the Catholic ones. I can only speak for myself but I

think it is wrong to impose one's beliefs on anyone else.

"Besides, what happened to the separation of Church and State? One of my velvet mafia (read: gay chic friend), who also happens to be one of our country's top lawyers, tells me that this principle is enshrined in our Constitution—Article 2 Section 6. And, well, I did my catechism, too, and didn't Jesus say something like "render unto Caesar what is Caesar's and render

unto God what is God's"? Hmmmm... The divorce bill sounds like a very Caesar thing to me.

"The Church should stop trying to influence what is essentially a civil decision. After all, this is the same Church that gave us the Inquisition, condemned Galileo (and only recently "reversed" their position) and, for all Cardinal Sin's talk of "Rizalian values," the same Church that had a little bit to do with his execution. So while they may have the monopoly on moral values (debatable at best) they certainly have serious problems with other issues.

"In the end, I don't think anyone gets into a marriage with the idea of using divorce as an escape hatch. I believe people try their damndest to make their marriages work. I married an American and lived in a land where divorce was permitted but I stuck to my marriage. I didn't run to

divorce court for every little fight we had. It was my choice to stay and I worked like hell to make my marriage work. My point is that, for our unfortunate friends whose marriages don't work out, why don't we give them another chance at happiness? Why condemn them to a life of misery? Let them make the choice to stay or to go. Don't impose it. Besides, in the end, what is the real difference between legal separation and divorce? You can't be a little bit pregnant, you know.

"Most important, divorce gives a woman in a male-dominated society like ours the right to walk out if she can't take it anymore and it ensures she is not left bereft of funds—unlike if her husband just throws her out. So this is a woman's issue at the heart of it."

E-mail the author at asd_world@hotmail.com

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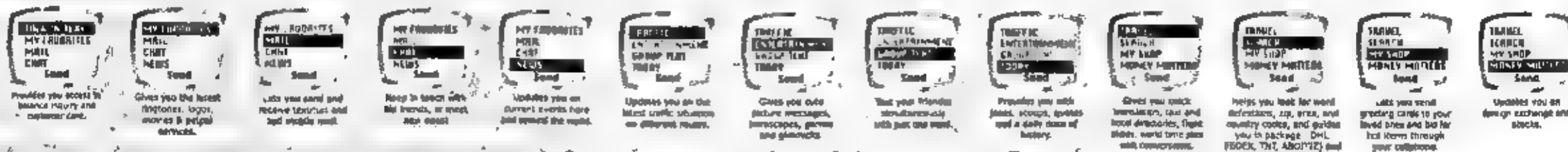
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Tina, 36, spends time with son Anton, 5, in the kitchen of their Citta Italia Romagna home.

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Via Aubang Take the Abayang-Zapote Road towards Cuauhtémoc Village to Marcos Alvarez Avenue Follow the road to Molino (Police Ave) and Dry Market will be your landmarks, and turn left After 200 meters turn right to Babayag Pagasa (Shell Station will be at the corner). Follow directional signs going to Mamboog Road until you see Cita Italia on your right.

Via South Superhighway Take the Carrizosa exit and follow the national highway towards Puerto Azul. Upon reaching Aguinaldo Highway at the end of the stretch, turn right. You will pass Immaculate Conception Academy, Waltermart, La Salle University, Orchard, Malena and Robinson's. Watch out for Robinson's Grocery on your right. Turn right at Robinson's and watch out for the Citra Italia billboard. Turn right at JICA Road and follow the cemented road until you see Citra Italia on your left.

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ASSET-LIABILITY MANAGEMENT OFFICER

- Minimum 1 year experience in Asset-Liability Management or Risk Management function of a Commercial/Universal Bank
- Will be responsible in preparation and analysis of management reports, such as interest rate, gap analysis and various simulations, monitoring and managing of balance sheet risks of the Bank given recommendations to matters affecting over-all performance of the Bank
- Candidates must be familiar with the Bank's business operations and various BSP rules and regulations

SALES TRAINING OFFICER

- Graduate of Psychology or any business related course
- Will be responsible in conducting sales related seminars and assist in other projects of Center for Learning
- Candidates must have at least 1 year experience as Branch Sales/Marketing Officer and must have the desire to teach and train

TRUST OFFICERS

- Graduate of any 4 year business course
- Minimum 2 years experience as Trust Marketing Officer in any _____
- Having a network of clients will be an advantage

METHODS OFFICER

- Graduate of BS Industrial Engineering
- Knowledge in Process Analysis and Work Measurement
- With experience as project manager in a banking environment

ASSET-LIABILITY MANAGEMENT ANALYST

- Open to recent graduates of Accounting, Statistics, Economics or any related business course with high analytical skills
- Will be responsible in providing support to the Asset-Liability Management Team in preparation and analysis of management reports (eg. Income projection, industry analysis and board presentation)

BRANCH TRADERS

- Open to recent graduates of any related business course with high analytical skills and well developed communication skills
- Will be responsible for coordinating and dealing with Branches and Account Management Treasury related products like T-bills rates, Placements and currencies

DEALER COORDINATOR

- Open to recent graduates of Marketing or any related business course with well developed communication skills
- Will be responsible for soliciting auto credit applications from automotive dealers

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

- Minimum 1 year experience as Secretary
- Proficient in Windows application
- Must possess well developed communications skills

METHODS ANALYST

- Graduate of BS Industrial Engineering
- Experience in systems, time and motion studies as well as work measurement will be an advantage, although new graduates will also be considered
- Proficient in Windows/Microsoft Office application

TELECOM ENGINEER

- Graduate of BS ECE
- Minimum 2 years experience in PBX/KTS & line installation & administration; Proficient in SCS, wire communication & transmission LAN/WAN operations; with knowledge in Win 95/98, MS Office, Outlook, Access

Interested parties are requested to send their comprehensive resumes to any of the addresses below with a 2x2 photo attached.

(POSITION APPLIED FOR)
 Human Resource Management Cluster
 4/F IBank Exchange Building, 142 Amoroso St.
 Legaspi Village, Makati City

E-mail address: jobs@ibank.com.ph

Visit our Website at www.ibank.com.ph

SYKES

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With 44 call centers worldwide, Sykes is a global leader in providing customer and technical support services for many of the world's best known companies. From its Manila Call center, Sykes currently supports 15 clients in 6 languages, handling the transactions throughout Asia, Europe and the USA.

Our recent expansion includes the provision of Technical Support services for Macromedia, one of the world's largest independent software companies, and the company behind many market leading products in the field of web, graphics and multimedia design. Due to this, we are in immediate need of highly qualified:

Technical Support Engineers

Candidates must be:

- College graduate of BS Computer Science, Computer Engineering, MIS and related courses
- In-depth software troubleshooting on different platforms
- Technical knowledge on any Macromedia Dreamweaver and Fireworks or previous experience on products of a similar nature in a commercial environment required
- Multimedia and/or Internet development experience with familiarity of basic programming concepts and fundamentals
- Experience and awareness on different Windows (Windows 95, 98, 2000, NT and ME) and/or Mac (OS 8 and above) Operating Systems
- Familiarity with the concepts of Web publishing technologies such as HTML, Browsers, Plug-ins as well as servers
- Fluency in written and spoken English
- Proven skills in business writing and phone handling
- Strong customer service orientation, analytical, results-oriented and a team player
- Willingness to work on a shifting schedule is essential

If you think you possess the qualifications and skills that we are looking for, kindly submit your updated resumé along with your web profiles on or before, 01 August 2001, to the Human Resources Dept. 4F SMPC Bldg., St. Francis Ave., Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City 1550. You can also send it via e-mail at hrrd@man.ph.sykes.com

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- Ten Full-time / Part-time, Training Managers (M / F, 25 to 38 years old)
To teach Computer Basics, Office Productivity Tools, Desk Top Publishing, Programming, Networking and More.
- Ten Full-Time / Part-time Training Supervisors / Assistants (M / F, 21 to 24 years old)
To assist Training Managers
- Two Internet Education Search Supervisors (M / F, 23 to 30 years old)
Preferably BSIED graduates or current grade school or high school teachers
- One Marketing / Advertising / PR Manager (M / F, 24 to 30 years old)
With at least 2 years experience in a highly competitive marketing field
- Two Marketing / Management Assistants / Supervisors (M / F, 21 to 23 years old)
To assist the Marketing Manager
- Two Restaurant Supervisors (M / F, 21 to 23 years old)
To assist the Operations Manager and man the shifts

STAFF POSITIONS

- Two Internet Surfers / Writers (M / F, 21 to 27 years old)
Journalism or Communication Arts graduates, with excellent writing skills
- Two Part-time Marketing Trainees (M / F, 18 to 21 years old)
To assist in club-related membership development activities
- Ten Part-time Service Crew Members (M / F, 18 to 22 years old)
To work Part-time at the Aleneo / UP Center

For details applicants are encouraged to check out our web site: www.mass-it.net, starting August 01, 2001

All applications should be sent to:
MASSACHUSETTS INTERNET TRAINING INSTITUTE (M.I.T.I.) INC.,
P.O. Box 5M-200
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
Classified Ads Division
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Only qualified applicants will be contacted by phone, e-mail, or text
Email: jm1@inquirer.com.ph
(Subject: HB&A)



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College graduate, with 2 years managerial or 5 years supervisory experience in a service-oriented company. Has excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Preferably female. Not over 35 years old.

MARKETING OFFICER/ASSOCIATES

(For Head Office)

College graduate, preferably of Marketing course with 1 to 2 years experience in a service-oriented company. With excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Not over 28 years old.

Please submit comprehensive resumé with application letter and recent 2x2 photo to:

Human Resources Department
WEST AVENUE THEATRES CORP.
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Logistics/Account Assistant

(Circa PHP200,000 per annum)

The jobholder will be responsible for handling the importation of cigarette products as well as to provide assistance in accounting duties and tasks. The ideal candidate must possess the following:

- Commerce/Accounting graduate, with at least 2 years accounting work experience especially statutory reporting.
- With actual training & experience in import transactions and foreign exchange operation of six months to one year.
- With excellent interpersonal and communication skills;
- Computer literate and possess high analytical and arithmetical ability;
- Enthusiastic, dedicated and a good team player

JTI offers competitive and excellent remuneration to the right candidate with great prospects for advancement.

Interested applicants may submit their resumé, transcript of records and recent 2x2 photo not later than August 6, 2001 to:

The Finance and Administration Manager
JT International (Philippines), Inc.
14th Flr., Units 1401/02 Galleria Corporate Center
EDSA cor. Ortigas Avenue, Quezon City
Email: jm1@inquirer.com.ph
(Subject: JTI)

www.jobmarketonline.com



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www.geospatial-solutions.com

LEADERS IN GEOSPATIAL TECHNOLOGY.

GeoSpatial Solutions is an Information and Communications Technology (ICT) company that specializes in the development of Geographic Information Systems.

We are looking for the following ICT Professionals to be part of our team:

- RECEPTIONISTS**
one year experience as a frontliner, familiarity with MS Office; a business, marketing or communications graduate
- SYSTEMS ANALYSTS**
two years relevant work experience in systems analysis and design, systems development and computer programming; an engineering, science or computer science graduate
- GRAPHIC ARTISTS**
two years experience in print publication, digital design, or advertising; a fine arts or architecture graduate
- INFORMATION SPECIALISTS**
three years relevant work experience in research, a communication, research, library science or computer science graduate
- MARKETING ASSISTANTS**
one year experience in market analysis, brand management or general marketing; a business, marketing or tourism graduate
- ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS**
two years relevant experience in office management, a business, accounting, or economics graduate

Apply to us in person or send us your application via e-mail:
3102-C East Tower, PSE Cir (Telcel Towers), Ortigas Cir. Pasig City 1605 Philippines
hr.admin@geospatial-solutions.com

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Email your 2 page resumé to incore_corp@yahoo.com
On or before August 1, 2001

Paste your resumé into the body of the email.
No attachments.

Indicate if you are available for Full-Time or Part-Time.



THE EXECUTIVE SEARCH AND EVALUATION GROUP

Send your resumé by e-mail to esearch@ulink.com or fax it to 836-1336. You may also call 837-1222 for a confidential discussion or send us at 0910-4513487. Alternatively, you can send your resumé by mail or visit us at 1006A West Tower, Philippine Stock Exchange Center, Exchange Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City.

VICE PRESIDENT - MARKETING

You are tasked with leading the Marketing Operations of the company by managing its sales strategy, product development and market positioning. You are responsible for overseeing the marketing efforts of the company's national and international operations. You are also in charge of steering the company's aggressive drive to capture greater market shares.

- must have thorough understanding of the pre-need business or similar manpower intensive sales operation
- must be profit oriented, with sufficient understanding of finance
- with extensive people network, preferably on nationwide base
- must be good at recruiting sales heads nationwide
- must be very good in senior level strategic marketing and sales management
- must be articulate, impressive in communication skills, with pleasant personality and skilled in people's relations
- able to achieve pre-agreed sales goals and objectives
- experience with must have good track record in pre-need, insurance, or other similar sales and people intensive businesses
- male, at least 35 years old
- must have at least 8 years of management and marketing experiences in the pre-need or similar industries
- must be known to excel in sales production, manpower recruitment and sales organizational development
- preferably with an MBA or similar managerial degree
- compensation package is open and includes over-all sales overriding commissions.

TRAINING

You are tasked with supervising the financial resources of the company. You are also responsible for managing the use of such financial resources, to make it grow even in these difficult times. You may have to act also as the controller of the company, to steer its financial direction, maximize the use of its fiscal resources and sustain its operation.

- must have worked in a medium to large scale corporation in an executive capacity
- must have performed excellently as a controller, treasurer and/or other senior top-level financial management positions
- must have good sound or working knowledge of business investments, and marketing sales operations
- must be able to identify and evaluate new business opportunities
- must have the will and ability to make things happen according to approved strategic plans and programs based on the hard facts of the present economic condition
- must be able to make market reviews and propose new business strategies to enhance productivity of the company and its subsidiaries
- minimum of 4 years experience in a financial analysis or financial project evaluation environment
- preferably with CPA, MBA or equivalent educational background
- hard English, strong in communication and interpersonal skills
- independence, initiative, creativity and hardworking are also prerequisites, and must be very personable
- must be at least 40 years old with strong entrepreneurial inclinations
- compensation package is open.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT HEAD

You shall take charge of the department to plan and implement its efficient and effective operation.

- must have relevant work experience in a supervisory or managerial capacity for a pre-need or other companies engaged in financial services
- must be adept in working under heavy workload of contracts, generating accurate and timely reports, overseeing operation of claims and benefits sections
- must have leadership skills and adept in interpersonal relationship, able to deal with various personalities
- preferably patient, attentive to details, conscientious, hardworking, dynamic, pro-active and
- must be trustworthy, reliable, very computer literate
- college graduate with pleasing personality, with above average written and oral communication skills
- 26-37 years old, of above average weight



The International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) is an autonomous, non-profit, agricultural research and training center located in Los Baños, Laguna.

People are as important to research as capital and technology. If you believe in this, then you are invited to apply for the position of:

HRS MANAGER (Employee Relations)

Candidates should have:

- master's degree in Management and/or appropriate experience in personnel, training or general management;
- at least 10 years experience in HR or Training;
- proven skills in employee relations, managing people, services and resources;
- ability to manage projects and to coordinate activities involving several administrative units;
- excellent interpersonal and communication skills.

Reporting to the Director for Administration and Human Resources the successful candidate will:

- Manage employee relations matters relating to all staff other than Internationally Recruited Staff and Affiliate Scientists;
- Coordinate relations with the Council of IRRI Employees (CIE) as well as with other staff groups such as ALSAS, IFSA, and SINOP, and AIRESS Act as Management's main contact person with these associations;
- Coordinate relations with Philippine government HR bodies such as DOLE and the NLRC;
- Oversee the operations of the IRRI Medical Clinic;
- Coordinate the activities of the IRRI Appeals Committee;
- Handle administrative cases as they arise;
- Oversee all orientation activities designed to assist new staff arriving at IRRI;
- Produce various materials of interest to staff such as brochures, booklets, books and videos. In coordination with Public Awareness, produces Sandawa (newsletter);
- Organize training and development activities for NRS, in cooperation with HR Services;
- Direct a program of recreational, cultural activities, including the operation of the IRRI Club, organizing various sports events, scheduling staff sales and bazaars, assisting the IRRI Choir, organizing film showing and art exhibits, and related activities;
- Facilitate annual events such as the IRRI-UPBL dual meet, Recognition Day and the Christmas Party

Qualified applicants will be notified by telegram, e-mail or by phone.

Interested applicants should send their application letter, resumé, transcript of records, three references, and a recent 2x2-inch photo no later than 6 August 2001 to:

International Rice Research Institute
HR Services-National Staff,
IRRI, DAPO Box 7777
Metro Manila
Fax Nos.: 891-1292, 845-0606
E-mail Address: e.revilla@cglar.org

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ASST. MARKETING MANAGER

- BS/BA Degree in any Marketing, Mass Communications or Business Management course; with excellent verbal, written communication and presentation skills.
- Minimum 3 years marketing experience, preferably in a media-related industry

Interested applicants, please email, fax and hand carry your resume before August 8, 2001.

GetAsia.com PTE LTD.
15th Fl. Citibank Tower
8741 Paseo de Roxas, Salcedo Village, Makati City
Email: MarketingPH@GetAsia.net Fax: 752-5799

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1909 Richville Corporate Tower
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Between 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

For interview:

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ORICA CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Multinational manufacturing business seeks

FINANCIAL MANAGER

Senior Management team player, overall responsible for Finance, Accounting, and IT Department. The candidate must have at least 5 years of a similar role. Knowledge of SAP would be favoured

Interested candidates can send their Curriculum Vitae to:

HR MANAGER
ORICA Explosives Philippines Inc
7/F Guada Building
No. 31 EDSA Mandaluyong City



NORWEGIAN TRAINING CENTER-MANILA

is in need of a

PR & MARKETING MANAGER

Who Are We?	What We Are Looking For?	What We Expect?
<p>The Norwegian Training Center-Manila of the Norwegian Maritime Foundation of the Philippines, Inc. (NMFFPI) was founded in May 1990 for the purpose of ensuring competent training and to promote quality shipping.</p> <p>We offer varied courses from Ship and Cargo Handling; Management; Technical; Safety Courses; Welding; and Culinary Courses.</p> <p>Our faculty of Norwegian and Filipino mariners are trained to teach with confidence, aided by modern teaching aids and methods.</p>	<p>We are looking for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Graduate of Business or Marketing or BS Marine Transportation or BS Marine Engineering. 2. Articulate in English language. 3. Computer-literate specifically in Power-Point software for presentations. 4. Shipping industry or marketing experience preferred. <p>We do not specify the gender neither is the age. If you get what it takes, then you are what we are looking for.</p>	<p>Over-all responsibility of a PR and Marketing Manager is to promote NTC-M courses to prospective clients.</p> <p>Establish good relation and maintain information linkage with clientele.</p> <p>Update website as part of information dissemination procedure.</p> <p>Prepare newsletters for distribution to clients.</p> <p>Assist in NTC-M programs and projects.</p>

For applications, please contact either of the following:

Capt. Ivar Thomassli, Director
Capt. Eddie P. Berueta, Training Manager
Ms. Blesila G. Tani-Salva, Executive Assistant

Address:

Norwegian Training Center-Manila
NTC-M Building, Gate 2 TESDA Complex, East Service Road, Taguig, Metro Manila
Tel. No., 812-0742
Website: www.ntcm.com.ph • E-mail: ntcm@info.com.ph

Isis International-Manila, an international women's information and communication service organization based in Quezon City, is currently in search of for the following to join its dynamic and motivated team.

SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATION

She will be responsible for a) the development and maintenance of Isis's local area network and online resources; b) the development, testing and promotion of alternative "open", low-cost telecom technology amongst women communicators and activist organizations; and c) the provision of user support to Isis staff, guests and key partners.

Essential Skills:

- strong feminist perspective
- design, installation and troubleshooting of LAN cabling structures
- Be server user management and administration
- install computer software/hardware applications for networking operations
- design, installation, configuration, troubleshooting of printing, email and mailing list services
- technical support for all LINUX, Eudora, UNIX, and Windows NT servers
- ability to communicate effectively in written and spoken English
- willingness to work as a team player
- information management or related courses or equivalent experience

Salary: Php 30,000 per month

Organisational Development and Administration Programme (ODAP) Manager

She is primarily responsible for a) the overall institutional management; b) overseeing the general programme management and development of the ODAP and providing leadership to the team; c) developing and overseeing the internal institutional and programme monitoring and evaluation system; d) taking lead in developing institutional policies; e) the formulation and implementation of the human resource development programme; f) ensuring adequate check and balance of the financial system; g) the overall management of the information system, and h) fulfilling legal accountabilities of the organization.

Essential Skills:

- strong feminist perspective and has been involved with the women's movement, nationally and regionally
- with at least three years experience in leadership roles at the executive levels in a development institution, preferably in women's organization
- strong writing and analytical skills
- expertise in planning, monitoring and organisational development systems
- skills in managing finance, administration and information technology programmes
- strong networking skills
- ability to manage staff and lead the programme to all core activities and tasks
- capable in dealing with personalities and conflict resolution
- knowledge of Philippine corporate and labor requirements
- ability to communicate effectively in written and spoken English
- willingness to work as a team player

Salary: Php 42,000.00 per month

Technical Associate

She will be responsible for a) providing technical and administrative support to the Executive Director; b) ensuring that key institutional documents are in order and key correspondence are maintained; and c) ensuring the visibility of the organization through the development of publications, institutional documents and press releases.

Essential Skills:

- strong feminist perspective
- proficient in preparing reports, compiling/organizing data and developing publications
- ability to communicate effectively in written and spoken English
- prioritization and setting targets
- electronic communication skills, including email, mailing list and proficiency in MS Word, MS Excel
- willingness to work as a team player
- Bachelor's degree in Communication Arts or related courses or equivalent experience

Salary: Php 21,000.00 per month

Interested parties may send their application letter, resumé and two reference letters by 13 August 2001 to:

The Executive Director
Isis International-Manila
#3 Marunong St., Central District, Quezon City
Tel. No., (632) 4353405; 4353406
Fax No., (632) 924-1055

For inquiries, you may e-mail us at isis@isiswomen.org.

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ACCREDITATION NO. 59166-3

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MERCHANDISER

Age 25-35; 5 years experience in softdrink selling/marketing. He should be college graduate and with professional driver's license; He should be x-saudi or Gulf in Pepsi Cola or Coca cola company.

REFRIGERATOR TECHNICIAN

Age 25-35; Experience in repair cooler and fountain machine; He should be computer literate

INDUSTRIAL ELECTRICIAN

Age 25-35; 5 years experience in factory; X-saudi or Gulf

ELECTRONIC TECHNICIAN

No less than 5 years experience in Audio/Video & other electronic appliance.

CAR ELECTRICIAN

Experience in auto electricals Japanese & American car; X-saudi or Gulf.

FURNITURE DESIGNER

3 years above experience in Hospital or Clinic; Graduate with diploma in Nursing and with license.

REQUIREMENTS: Resumé with job description, Certificate of employment with 2x2 ID picture. Interested applicants outside Metro Manila can send their resumé to Samie Int'l.

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Directories Philippines Corporation (DPC) is the leading and biggest publisher of telephone directories in the Philippines. It is the official publisher of telephone directories for PLDT, Piltel, Datalink, PLDT-Maratel, Cruztelco, General Telephone System Inc., Philcom and Istacom, covering 24 directorates. A Charter Member of the Asian Directory Publishers Association, Inc. DPC is the exclusive sales representative in the Philippines of the telephone directories of FCCW of Hongkong, Telecom Publications SDN BHD of Malaysia, PT Infomedia Nusantara of Indonesia, Directel Macau of Macau, GTE Directories (S) SDN BHD of Brunei, Directories Lanka (PVT) Ltd. of Sri Lanka, M & N Publications Ltd. of India, Pacific Access Pty Ltd. of Australia, BCE AsiaMedia M-S & Africa of Middle East, Edward H. O'Brien (PNG) Ltd. of Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Fuji Directories Ltd of Fiji, Worldcomp Holdings (S) Pte Ltd. of Vietnam, NTT Directory Services Co. of Japan, China Telephone Co. of Shanghai, China and Korea Telephone Directory Co. Ltd. of South Korea.

DPC immediately needs quality candidates for the following position:

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- Male 21-28 years old
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- Persuasive in oral and written communication
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If you fit the above description, see us for an interview, July 30 - Aug. 3, 2001, 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM with your application letter, resumé, transcript of records and recent photograph.



DIRECTORIES PHILIPPINES CORPORATION
Corporate Affairs Department
16/F DPC Plaza,
2322 Chino Rocas Ave.,
(Formerly Pasong Tamo Ext.,)
Makati City
www.directoriesphil.com
www.yellowpagesphl.com
dpc@info.com.ph



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A NEW GARMENT COMPANY needs you if you are:

- between 30-40 years old
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- computer literate
- resident of Quezon City, Pasig or Antipolo
- minimum 5-year experience in large scale garment factory

one (1) SENIOR INDUSTRIAL ENGINEER

- graduate of BSIE or any related course
- highly knowledgeable in machine lay out, time/motion study and in efficiency rating

one (1) QUALITY CONTROL MANAGER

- graduate of BSIE or any related course
- knowledgeable in international quality standards

one (1) CHIEF ACCOUNTANT

- must be a Certified Public Accountant
- knowledgeable in all aspects of general and cost accounting

one (1) PRODUCTION MANAGER

- graduate of BSIE or any related course
- proficient in inventory and production planning
- proficient in all aspects of garment manufacturing

Please send your resumé and latest 2x2 photo to:

Box No. MK-66
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
Atrium of Makati, Makati Avenue
Makati City

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We are one of the country's premier companies engaged in voice and internet-based Customer Relationship Management. We invite experienced and highly motivated individuals to join our organization for the following positions:

Training and Development Officer (Code: TDO-Trng)

The Training and Development Officer will be responsible for the design, schedule and implementation of training courses and programs; review existing training methods and techniques, and its application and establish training goals as required. The candidate must have an extensive experience in the whole training cycle from conducting of needs analysis, formulation of modules, implementation of training programs, and post-assessment/evaluation, preferably a Trainer from a Call Center or a Sales Trainer from a service industry. The candidate must have strong interpersonal skills and excellent in written and verbal communications; must be smart and aggressive. Persons between twenty-five to thirty years of age are preferred.

LAN Tech Engineer (Code: LTE-Opns)

The LAN Engineer will be responsible for the installation, monitoring, maintenance and troubleshooting of computer peripherals and workstations. The candidate must have strong foundation in providing technical support (hardware/software); proficient in LAN/WAN, Client Server and Windows 2000 environment. The candidate must be a university degree holder in BS Computer Science or Computer Engineering and must be a Microsoft Certified Professional. Persons must be between twenty and twenty-seven years of age; must possess excellent interpersonal and communication skills; must be willing to work on shifts.

Telecoms Technician (Code: TelTech-Opns)

The Telecoms Technician will be responsible for the installation, maintenance and troubleshooting of phone lines. The candidate must have at least three (3) years progressive experience in telephony, cabling and configuring phone system; must be a university degree holder in BS Electronics and Communications Engineering; preferably licensed. Persons must be between twenty-five to thirty years of age; must possess excellent interpersonal and communication skills, must be willing to work on shifts.

Customer Care Specialists (Code: CCS-Opns)

The Customer Care Specialists will be at the forefront of our organization. They will be the focal point for all customer requests, and will be responsible for providing front line support and assistance to our clients. Our Customer Care Specialists are expected to analyze, diagnose and solve problems, with consistently high customer satisfaction rating. They should be courteous, customer-focused, and must be team spirited. The ideal candidates for the position are persons who are internet savvy college graduates; excellent communications skills; are between twenty and twenty-seven years of age, with excellent interpersonal skills; and are willing to work shifts. Previous experience in the customer relations management industry and can speak any foreign language such as Fookien, Mandarin, Cantonese and Spanish is a plus.

Interested parties are requested to submit their comprehensive resumé indicating the position code to:

WEBSERVASIA

Attn: Human Resources Department
29/F IBM Plaza, Eastwood City Cyberpark, E. Rodriguez Avenue, Bagumbayan, Quezon City
Email: jobs@webservasia.com
Fax No: 911-8854

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IMMEDIATE JOB HIRING

IF YOU ARE —

- Energetic men & women of at least 20-35 years of age
- College graduates of at least 4-year course from reputable schools & universities
- Individuals who have a good command of English and Filipino language
- Those who are ready to undergo comprehensive company training and can work at once.

THEN YOU DESERVE THESE BID OPPORTUNITIES:

- A Starting pay of 18,000.00
- Company sponsored travels (here and abroad)
- Career development and growth with our automatic promotion system

APPLY AT:

5th/F Suite 508 Manila Bank Building
6772 Ayala Avenue, Makati City
(Beside RPI Building)

SCHEDULE OF INTERVIEW:

Monday - July 30, 2001 Wednesday - August 1, 2001
Tuesday - July 31, 2001 Thursday - August 2, 2001
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM ON ALL DAYS

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SUNDAY

GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE

INQUIRER

MAGAZINE

July 29, 2001

Volume 14

No. 21



Rene Saguisag, Raymond Fortun,



Oliver Lozano and Salvador Pánelo



Defiant Defenders

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How an erstwhile broadcast producer and magazine editor found a hands-on business



SYCIP'S EXAMPLE

I read with fascination your article on Mr. Washington Sycip, and I would like to commend Alya Honasan and your entire team for selecting this feature for your cover story (SIM, 1 July 2001). I don't usually have the time to read much about the country, living a hectic life here in America, but on this Sunday morning here in LA and with a hangover no less, I was still struck by the powerful message of this article.

In these difficult times, when local Filipinos need a boost of morale and the country needs a strong positive media campaign here abroad, it is easy to forget that much of the power lies in each one of us Filipinos to give back to society and never think or feel that what we've given is enough. Of all of Mr. Sycip's brilliant opinions on democracy, political freedom, economics, taxation, education and generosity (all of which I agree with), the one that I or anyone can easily adapt in everyday life is his take on generosity or giving back to society, in whatever way you can. This is one trait that is very significant in this society, and which makes the US thrive as a nation. At my level, for instance, there are very few parties given that are not "for the benefit of" something. And definitely there are so many who support their alma maters and hospitals with endless donations, not necessarily with money (but that's the best) but with volunteer time, teaching, etc. Average, middle-class, or truly rich, everyone does it! In Manila, much is given to the Church, being a very Catholic country, and that's great, but really, the educational system cannot be overlooked, especially the public schools (and public hospitals), because this is our way of educating and uplifting the lives of the masses.

I love being a Filipino, and my education and life abroad have made me realize that to whom much is given, much is expected. My grandfather, the former Vice President Fernando Lopez, was a very spartan man as well, and I can truly relate to Mr. Sycip's story of being deprived of many of the fancier trap-

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BECKY LOPEZ
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Noteworthy In the Business of Dreams

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Poetry J. Nell Carmela Garcia

Pinoy Nga! Noontime Show by Jess Abrera

This Week



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Packing Prayers and A Pistol

TO TOWNFOLK BRED IN THE MISTY HIGHLANDS OF THIS SOUTHERN "ISLE OF PROMISE," DODGING THE ABU SAYYAF HAS BECOME PART OF THEIR DAILY SURVIVAL TACTICS. THE BANDITS ARE JUST AROUND, BASILAN RESIDENTS SAY. SHORN OF THEIR CAMOUFLAGE GARB AND BANDANA, THEY LOOK LIKE ORDINARY MALL RATS IN ZAMBOANGA AND DAVAO, OR LAID-BACK MOVIEGOERS CATCHING THE LATEST ROBIN PADILLA STARRER.

"I am simply trying to practise the calling of a Christian at this time and place, which is to fight against this evil group"

Still, townfolk brush aside as a fluke the likelihood of being kidnapped by these dreaded bandits. Being kidnapped twice, they're bound to shrug off with a knowing smirk, is the height of comical misfortune, a fate reserved for born losers. Or for the truly charismatic, if you ask Fr. Cirilo Nacorda, who had the unenviable distinction of breaking bread with the Abu Sayyaf in the jungles of Basilan more than once. "They seem to like me a lot. *Palagi kasi nila akong hinahanap,*" the soft-spoken parish priest of the St. Peter's Parish Church in Lamitan municipality says jokingly.

Fr. Nacorda, or "Father Loy" to friends and Basileños, had just returned from a meeting with military officials in Isabel City where they had a verbal tussle over the postponed training of some civilian volunteers he had personally recruited to join the paramilitary group CAFGU. But Nacorda doesn't only recruit armed civilian volunteers in Lamitan; he leads them.

In fact, he is also the spiritual leader of hordes of vigilante groups and cults in Basilan whose cryptic names are as surreal as the province itself. There is the Sagrada Corazon de Jesus, the Ilagas, Tadtad, Bulahan, Sto. Niño and Nacorda's own brainchild, the non-violent Concerned Basileños Movement whose membership ranges from

A free man: Fr. Loy (with former President Ramos) after his release from the Abu Sayyaf lair in 1994



No disguise: Nacorda says he's tired of living in fear

businessmen to peasants. Fr. Loy describes his Concerned Basileños Movement (CBM), with its 4,000-strong membership, as a "civil society" group, responsible for unifying both the armed cults and the non-violent sectors in the province. "The CBM has influenced many armed vigilante groups to shed their violent tendencies," he claims.

Fr. Loy, 43, the fifth child in a brood of seven, was born, raised, schooled, ordained, kidnapped and hostaged in Lamitan town. And although this clergyman has a Cebuano for a father and a Dumaguete lass for a mother, he says he is "through and through a Lamiteño." With his goatee and mustache, however, he can easily pass for a typical Yakan chap. His first brush with the bandit group Abu Sayyaf, which calls itself the Al Harakatul Al-Islamiah or the Islamic Movement, was on June 8, 1994, barely two years after he was ordained and a month after he became parish priest of Matarling barangay in

Isabela. Fr. Loy was snatched along with 69 other hostages, 17 of them killed while the rest were released in batches. Fr. Loy was freed exactly two months later, on August 8, reportedly after the government ransomed him for at least P2 million from the bandit group, then led by its founder Ustadz Abdulrajik Abubakar Janjalani.

His next encounter with the bandits was on June 2 this year, when the Abu Sayyaf, now led by Abdulrajik's younger brother Khadaffy Janjalani, raided the St. Peter's Parish Church and the Dr. Jose Ma. Torres Memorial Hospital in Lamitan. This time around, Fr. Loy decided to rescue himself. After hiding for hours in a secluded room, he sprung to freedom by leaping over the churchyard's fence and escaping to nearby houses amid a rain of bullets from the pursuing bandits. "I was so sure they would not hesitate to kill me this time, so I didn't take any chances," he reveals.

These days, Fr. Loy comes fully prepared to match and survive what he describes as "an evil in our midst." He packs a .45 caliber pistol in a black shoulder bag and says he won't hesitate to use the M-14 armalite rifle stashed in his closet should the bandits attack the church again.

"An eye for an eye: sometimes I tend to believe in that," he muses. "There have been cases here in Basilan when the principle proved to be effective." He cites how Christians were being killed indiscriminately in Isabela in 1999, until they decided to retaliate, killing two to three of their enemies a day. Given a dose of their own medicine, the bandits stopped killing the Christians, notes Fr. Loy.

"There is no contradiction between the Christian faith and what I do now," the priest adds. "Actually, if you study the prophets in the Old Testament, they really fought. They didn't just observe or take a passive stance of wait and see." He continues: "In fact, if you see the life of Jesus Christ, he was so involved in politics, in the economic and social aspect of his times. He did not just pray all the time. Remember how he intensely demonstrated his rage against the people who reduced the temple into a market place?"

A dialogue is out of the question, he adds. "For all you know, *nakipag-usap ka sa kanila*, you trust them, but... You have to be practical. You have to have your own protection. I am simply trying to practise the calling of a Christian at this time and age, which in this particular time and in this particular place in Basilan, is to fight against this evil group. Not against persons, because I have many Muslim friends and relatives, but against the evil things the Abu Sayyaf are doing. Aside from them, there is the evil system, the corruption, the injustices which are very rampant this time."

Such fighting words have riled the Abu Sayyaf so that they have raised a bounty for the priest's capture. Fr. Loy now goes to great lengths to conceal his identity. "I used to disguise myself. I would wear a hat, shades... I would even change vehicles and wear a military uniform," he reveals.

But no longer, he adds. "I don't like to disguise myself anymore," says Fr. Loy. "I want to let them know that I'm not afraid. I'm ready for them." He reconsiders, "Maybe I'm just tired of disguising myself and living in fear." His bravado isn't shared by his relatives, least of all his mother, the priest confides. "During my first kidnapping, she said, 'If I only knew this would happen to my son, I wouldn't have asked him to enter the priesthood.' She even asked the bishop to have me transferred to a parish far from Basilan upon my release. But I just didn't want to get out of Basilan," he explains.

Priesthood, he notes, "is not just a course. It is a calling. When I was still in the seminary I already accepted the realities and consequences of a priest's life. If you are going to speak the truth and stand for the truth, there will be consequences. You risk even your life." Even a third or fourth attempt to kidnap or kill him won't make him get out of Basilan, he says. "A father just can't leave his home at the first instance of trouble. What would happen to your wife, your children? You should be there to face the problems with them, or at least to give them inspiration. Even if I were not a priest, I should never abandon my people. Basilan is my birthplace. I was born here, I grew up here, and I love the people here, even my Muslim brothers." And after all, he adds, the threat to his life comes not from the bandits alone, but also "the military and other people who want to silence me."

What he fears most, says Fr. Loy, is "that the civilians in this place, because they have been so terrorized by this group, would eventually submit and lose confidence, hope and faith. Some might just say, 'For our own security. Let's not fight, let's not speak up.' That's what I fear."



But he admits: "We can't blame them sometimes. They're just victims. And among the most difficult thing to do is consoling victims. I couldn't even console myself as a victim of injustice." He rallies others in similar situations: "As Christians we are a people of hope. Surely there are obstacles along the road but we know that we can still find our goal ahead."

Not that he's immune to bouts of depression and restlessness, he admits in an earlier interview. He recalls how he felt so depressed during his first abduction when negotiations seemed to bog down that he lost faith in the government, in humanity, even in his own religion. Then a prayer changed it all.

He recounts: "One night when everything seemed to be falling apart, I decided to pray and told God, 'It's up to you now. I'm ready to accept whatever your plan is for me. It's okay if they kill me, but please give me courage.'

"I had a vision that night. I saw the eyes of Jesus for a few seconds. He was simply staring at me. And I told Him, 'Will You just stare at me like that and not help me escape?' Then the image faded." The following morning, he was ready to face death as the bandits escorted him from the camp. But to his surprise, they said, "*Pader, laya ka na.*"

Fr. Loy says he realized that his prayers had been answered. More, he believes his being set free was a message. "God is using me as an instrument for His work so that in the future we can see the bright light of harmony in Basilan," he declares. "I may not see it before I die, but I know it will come."

The zeal of his fellow Lamiteños has inspired him to go on as well, he adds. He cites those who died while trying to keep the faith. "I really admire Fr. Rhoel Gallardo. In fact I feel jealous of him. It has been my desire even before I entered the seminary to be a martyr. I don't know why, but I feel that if I were to be faithful to Christ, I must be ready to shed my blood. I feel that the blood I shed would act as fertilizer for the faith of the people."

But he's not ready to play martyr just yet, says Fr. Loy, adding that he is more useful alive. "I still have a lot to do. I still want to serve God and my people. My best hope is that one day we will live harmoniously, both Christians and Muslims."

Noteworthy

In the **Business** of Dreams

Rossana Llenado has made a thriving business of helping people prepare for life's big tests — school admission tests, that is

A PASSION FOR EXCELLENCE, THE DESIRE TO HELP, THE COURAGE TO PURSUE A DREAM — THESE ARE THE INGREDIENTS BEHIND THE ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT OF ROSSANA L. LLENADO, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF AHEAD TUTORIAL AND REVIEW CENTER AND NOW SCHOOL DIRECTOR OF THE PREPARATION FOR THE WORLD AHEAD PRE-SCHOOL, MORE FAMILIARLY KNOWN AS WORLDPREP.

Ever since she abandoned employment in the corporate world to establish Ahead in 1995, Llenado has been in the business of helping people achieve their goals. At Ahead, that means helping them get into the college or university of their choice.

"Ahead is actually a pioneer in the review course service, for while there are indeed older organizations in the industry, they were more focused on tutorials, not reviews," says Llenado of the organization she founded as a spin-off of Brain Train, which was set up 11 years ago in Los Baños, Laguna by her mother, Angelina Ladaga.

It all began when Llenado's younger sister Rogeline was about to take the University of the Philippines College Admission Test (UPCAT). Their mother prepared Rogeline and about 15 others by holding review classes in the living room of their own house.

In 1997, Llenado established Ahead's first branch in Kapitolyo, Pasig. The company has since become a leader in the industry, registering the highest "batting average" as far as entry into the UP, Ateneo and De La Salle college admission tests is concerned.

Whether through review or tutorials, Ahead's philosophy, as the company name suggests, has been about giving students a competitive edge. As with Ahead, WorldPrep's basic philosophy is that of preparing students for competition. It implements an innovative curriculum, with its classes conducted by competent and caring faculty members. Air-conditioned classrooms, top-of-the-line computer facilities, and a school-in-a-park environment make education at WorldPrep not only meaningful but enjoyable as well. Operations at Ahead have led to such spin-offs as Ahead Books and Things, whose most successful ventures have been the highly-praised Score Higher in UPCAT (and other college entrance tests) and With Honors, a valuable resource book for prospective college entrants published in cooperation with the Infoquest Research Group.

For inquiries on Ahead and WorldPrep programs, call 426-0029, 426-0030 or 426-0034.

A typical review class at Ahead



Rogeline and Rossana Llenado: A competitive edge. Below, a typical review class at Ahead

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Beauty in A Different Light

THREE YEARS AGO, FERNANDO SANTIAGO JR. DECIDED TO JOIN A PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST IN BORACAY. BUT UPON ARRIVING AT THE BEACH THREE DAYS BEFORE THE COMPETITION, HE REALIZED HE HAD FORGOTTEN HIS FILTERS, TOOLS WHICH THIS HOBBYIST WAS HIGHLY DEPENDENT ON. FORCED TO EXPERIMENT WITH HIS NIKON F60, HE TRANSFORMED BORACAY'S SUNNY SHORES INTO A DARK, DRAMATIC, AND ALMOST PAINTERLY PICTURE, WITH SILHOUETTES OF BANCAS AND LIGHT PEEPING THROUGH SHADOWY SKIES. "ALTHOUGH I HAD AN IDEA WHAT THE PHOTOS WERE GOING TO LOOK LIKE," HE RECALLS, "I WAS STILL SURPRISED AT THE WAY THEY TURNED OUT." THE CONTEST, BY THE WAY, "WAS CANCELED BECAUSE THERE WERE NO OTHER PARTICIPANTS. SO THERE WAS NO PRIZE," HE SHRUGS. "BUT AT LEAST THEY GAVE ME BREAKFAST."

"Some people think of religious things when they see my photos. Kind of makes you appreciate the creations of God"

Not to mention a camera technique which he applies in "Chiaroscuro," his first one-man exhibition at the De La Salle University Art Gallery in Taft Avenue, Manila. Using the same accidental adjustments (that is, "a very small aperture, so all you have to manipulate is the direction of the light"), Fernie's photographs range from the somber and shadowy effects in his Boracay, Manila Bay and Manila Yacht Club series, to the serene and heavenly hues in his Calaruega collection. This photographer is very specific about his shots; his favorite times to shoot are early morning and mid-afternoon, he likes places with water "because of the reflection so there's more light to work with," and he goes as far as bringing a compass to determine the best spot to click his camera. Still, he insists that beauty is everywhere. "One thing I learned in photography," he says, "is that you can see beauty even in the smallest, most ordinary things."

Actually, watercolor was what Fernie, 27, really wanted to get into. But when his paintings fell short of his expectations, he turned to



Boracay I (1999). above; Fernie with "Chiaroscuro" photos, left: "Beauty in the smallest, most ordinary things"



the medium most familiar in his home. As the grandson of an avid photographer and the son of a serious camera collector, Fernie says his passion for photography began at the age of six when he started shooting pictures of family and friends. Years of reading and self-study have helped, as has his appreciation for the works of Van Gogh, Picasso and Matisse.

Art lover that he is, however, Fernie isn't about to give up his day job just yet: teaching history at DLSU since 1996. "I'm really a liberal arts guy who's in pursuit of truth and beauty," he declares. "So I search for truth in history and try to find beauty in photography." Talk about the perfect balance: if history demands great analysis and thought, Fernie's pictures require no explanation whatsoever. "Some people think of religious things when they see my photos," he notes. "I didn't use to feel that way until I blew up the pictures. Now they look like meditations. Kind of makes you appreciate the creations of God."

"Chiaroscuro" runs till July 31.

Courting Controversy

THEY ARE AMONG THE PEOPLE WE LOVE TO HATE. SHAKESPEARE MUST HAVE BEEN ON TO SOMETHING WHEN HE DECLARED, "FIRST THING WE DO, LET'S KILL ALL THE LAWYERS" IN "HENRY VI."

"No matter the public perception, every person is entitled to due process, counsel and representation," says Fortun

Indeed, as cowering witnesses stammer out their stories, these men and women in suits curl their lips in ill-disguised incredulity as they hammer in their arguments in a lethal mix of logic, loopholes and Latin. No wonder the crowd cheered when witness Emma Lim drenched an expensive lawyer's legal contretemps with iced tea.

But what does it take to weather the slings and arrows of public contempt? Three of the country's most controversial lawyers tell us the circumstance behind the pomp and the Biblical weight of their sacred oath to defend due process. And while we may not agree with their choice of clients, we can at least take comfort in Dickens' sage observation: "If there were no bad people, there would be no good lawyers."

Faith and Fortun

HE IS, says lawyer Raymond Fortun, a closet Corysta. "I offered my life to Cory," he says passionately. "I was at Edsa 1 for four days and was stationed near Libis. After that, I was a speaker and panelist urging the people to approve the 1987 Constitution. My loyalty is to Cory and I think she knows that."

He is also, adds this 36-year-old UP Law graduate, a member of the parish choir and a church youth group that organizes outreach pro-

grams to orphanages, jails and old folks' homes. Fortun claims he is a labor lawyer at heart, taking care of this portfolio at the Fortun, Narvasa & Salazar Law Offices.

So what's a regular guy like him doing defending former President Joseph Estrada in the impeachment and plunder trials?

It's a question most people ask, including Batanes Rep. Florencio Abad, who recalls meeting Fortun when the Estrada lawyer was a brash law student actively involved in the 1987 Charter information campaign. "I don't know him that well, but he struck me then as intense, hard working and one who believes in what he is doing. So I was surprised to learn that he is now one of Estrada's lawyers." But then again, adds this Liberal Party stalwart, "If he's a serious lawyer, he would be into this whole idea of presumption of innocence, which means he's just doing his job."

That's exactly how Fortun puts it. "*Trabaho lang*," he says. "No matter the public perception, every person is entitled to due process, counsel and representation." Growing up in a house full of lawyers firmed up this conviction, he adds. The elder Fortun was a regional trial judge while his mother and elder brother Siegfried are also lawyers. His eldest sister passed the bar but has yet to take her oath.

Contrary to rumors, Fortun claims no big money is involved in the Estrada defense, "not even an acceptance fee, only expenses during the impeachment trial and time charges afterwards." Their firm, he adds with a straight face, was established "not for profit but to serve." In fact, adds this regular golfer, his new house in Las Piñas is so middle-class, water only runs at 2 a.m. "And I had to take out a loan at Union Bank to finance it."

Their firm, which had previously helped Estrada in some election cases, took this case, says Fortun, "because it is precedent-setting. It is the first and probably only time that an impeachment trial of a head of state will be conducted. We wanted a hand in the making of history."

The trial has put Fortun smack in the middle of media attention, "a learning experience," claims this guy who describes himself as "low-key but also *maluwag ang turnilyo* (easy-going)." Waking up at 5:30 a.m. for radio interviews and staying up until 1:30 a.m. for talk shows has become routine, he says. For sure, other people identify him with his infamous client, says Fortun, "but fortunately, Filipinos are very gracious and keep their negative comments to themselves. If at all, they tell me I'm a very brave person. Of course, I know there's a fine line between being brave and being crazy. Sort of like bungee jumping."

His wife, however, gets affected, he admits. "She was pregnant at the height of the impeachment trial, and she'd text me, '*Sasapukin ko yan!*' every time a panelist would badger me in a talk show. So I'd text her back: 'Cool ka lang, Mama; kawawa naman 'yung baby. I can handle this.'" Fortun met his wife Lumen in a Catholic religious group propagating the rosary. A former bank employee, she has since taken early retirement to become a fulltime homemaker. The couple has three young children.

To page 10

Fortun: Treading "a fine line between being brave and being crazy"



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44-47	193.90	2,196.00	387.80	4,392.00	775.60	8,784.00	1,163.40	13,176.00	1,551.20	17,568.00	1,939.00	21,960.00	3,878.00	43,920.00
48-50	231.90	2,624.00	463.80	5,248.00	927.60	10,496.00	1,391.40	15,744.00	1,855.20	20,992.00	2,319.00	26,240.00	4,638.00	52,480.00
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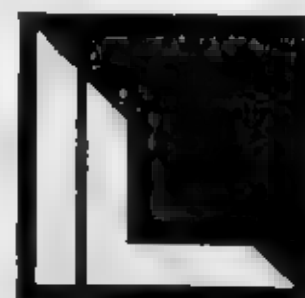
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The man who says he gets back at detractors by throwing a chirpy "God bless you *na lang*" at them claims he sees no conflict between his religious fervor and his defense of the man that Cardinal Sin had once warned voters against.

"The Cardinal was referring to Estrada's alleged lack of moral ascendancy: his lifestyle, his women, gambling, etc., not to his plunder cases, which we are handling," says Fortun. The church, he adds, "has the right to give advice on what is best for its flock, but then, Estrada's case has not been heard."

Although taking on Estrada's case has cost their firm some clients, like UST, Fortun shrugs off the loss. "We've had an influx of cases since then. Handling a high profile case means good name recall."

It also means getting to know one's client in his more private moments, and he is impressed, claims Fortun. "I have not met any public official as gracious as Estrada. When I come, he'd say, 'O, *pakainin ninyo muna ito*,' then he would even pull out my chair for me, and I want to say, *huwag, huwag po, ako na po*... I feel so humbled by his humility," he gushes. But he is a lonely man, Fortun says of the former President. "He would have been better off at the city jail where he can socialize with other people and pass time quickly." To relieve his client's boredom, he would text him Erap jokes, laughs Fortun. "Kris (Aquino), who's my text mate, would chide me for that, but (Estrada's) a good sport. In fact, he watches 'Isup' and loves how (Willy Nepomuceno) portrays him."

Echoing the defense's official position, Fortun says his client is innocent. "I believe it very firmly when Estrada says that people he had considered his friends betrayed him. Most of his supposed assets were in fact borrowed or leased and our documentation will prove that."

Although he believes that their most prominent client will eventually be acquitted of plunder cases, Fortun admits that public perception has been adverse. "People have the impression that when lawyers file all these motions, it's a delaying tactic. But they're allowed as part of due process." A live coverage of the trial, meanwhile, is not, he claims. "A live media coverage would cause the people to prejudge the accuse because the prosecution will present their case first. That's what happened during the impeachment trial so people went out and staged Edsa 2." That's his worst fear, he says: the molding of a public perception of guilt even before the evidence is in. "There are two sides to a coin, two sides to the truth."

It's a tough job, Fortun says, and right now, he'd like nothing better than take a break with his family "somewhere in the Philippines," except that "the Abu Sayyaf might learn about it and ask Erap for ransom," he laughs.

Man in the middle

HIS ROSTER of clients appears to be a rogues' gallery, if the tabloids' facile headlines were to be believed: Imelda Marcos of the serial plunder charges, UP professor Salvador "Bading" Carlos who was accused of sexual assault, convicted rapist-killer and former Calauan, Laguna mayor Antonio

Sanchez, Elmer Palicpic of the Lipa massacre case, police chief Roberto Lastimoso who is being linked to corruption, and former Ilocos Norte governor Chavit Singson of alleged illegal gambling ties.

So how does it feel to defend what many people might consider scum of the earth?

Atty. Salvador Panelo doesn't blink. "That's being judgmental because you still don't know the real story. There is always the presumption of innocence in any case." He continues: "Jesus came not for the good men, but for the sinners of the world."

Despite his clients' notoriety, Panelo maintains that he defends them out of principle and not money. "I'm a lawyer you cannot buy," he says. "You can't make me lie in court. If you are guilty, I will introduce evidence in your favor to lessen the charges, because the law allows for certain conditions that reduce the penalty. But I will not lie for you."

Truth is paramount, he adds. "I was a lawyer for Imelda Marcos, but I took on (broadcaster Ted) Failon's election protest in Leyte against a Romualdez. I'm for the truth. *Kung sino ang tama, ilalaban ko*."

Panelo claims to have imbibed this fighting spirit from his father, the late Pantaleon Panelo, "a geodetic engineer in Naga and a mathematician who finished law when he was 54." The elder Panelo was also known for making a presidential bid twice: in '65 and '69. "He ran as a protest candidate," says his son. "He wanted to prove that although anybody can run for the country's top post, not just anybody can win."

The son, meanwhile was busy proving himself his own man: "I was with Raul Manglapus' Party for Philippine Progress when my father ran in '65, and I was for boycott when he ran again in '69."

A UP education fuelled the rebellious streak. "I thought then that the Kabataang Makabayan (KM) and the Samahan ng Demokratikong Kabataan (SDK) were too dogmatic so I organized the more moderate KMKP, or Kilusan ng Makabayang Kabataang Pilipino. Most of the members later became NPAs."

Panelo, the eighth child in a brood of 12, says he went underground when martial law was declared. "I was on the list of the Philippine Constabulary as an NPA organizer in Libon, Albay, but I was only involved in teach-ins because even then, I had a constitutional mindset."

He was on the wanted list of both the Left and Right, he claims. "I outwitted the military who didn't recognize me when I cut my hair. Previously, I went around with long hair, *camisa chino* and McArthur shades. Then I changed my look and managed to slip away."

This '71 UP Law graduate was an original member of Mabini (Movement of Attorneys for Brotherhood, Integrity and Nationalism, Inc.), taking up the cause of human rights in the late '70s with such legal luminaries as Sen. Jose Diokno, Joker Arroyo, Jojo Binay and Rene Saguisag. The relationship soured when the Aquino government took over and the Marcos Loyalists became the new target of riot police. "When the Marcos Loyalists were being truncheoned, the Mabini lawyers did nothing," claims Panelo. "I asked why and one of them said, 'Di puede, kakampi tayo ni Cory.' I said, you're worse than Marcos, because you pretend to be human rights defenders when you're not."

Panelo: "Jesus came not for the good men but for the sinners of the world"



Politics started taking a back seat in 1983, however, when Pabelo met the woman who, he claims, changed his life. "Her name was Ma. Victoria Vera Piedad, which means Victory of True Piety, and nobody knows where she comes from, who she is." At the urging of a good friend, Pabelo went to Pila, Laguna to know more about this spirit guide who, he claims, "materialized as a real person for seven years, from 1972 to '79." On the seventh year, he continues, the woman who became known as Mother, fasted for at least 100 days. "When her picture was taken, it was the image of Jesus that came out." Mother, he claims, still communicates through the ouija board, "but only Dr. Paul Domingo is authorized to hold the glass."

Thus did Pabelo became a member of Bromoki, or the Brotherhood of Mothers, Kids. "I was skeptical at first and thought that the messages were a conspiracy between Dr. Domingo and the transcriber. So I asked a question quietly, why am I here? The message that came out was something I could not understand at first, it was too profound. Then I realized that it was about my life and I didn't even know this Dr. Domingo!"

Pila, says Pabelo, turned him around "from revolution to love. *Para na akong gago*. I realized that my mission in life was to prick the conscience of those who lead this country and to pave the way for a spiritual government."

Then, in one of his meditations, it came to him how he could propagate his ideas further: through public office. "My wife was shocked. How could I run when I had neither a party nor the funds? I said, we don't need the money. Didn't the Bible say, 'Seek first the Kingdom of heaven...?'"

Of course, claims Pabelo, he also had the inside track from Mother: "*Magiging huling kabit ka*," she told me." Sure enough, he adds, then Speaker Nicanor Yniguez of Marcos' Kilusang Bagong Lipunan called him up and asked him to be one of their senatorial bets, on the last day of filing of candidacy.

"What is important to me is to have a medium to spread my ideas and concept on love," Pabelo adds. Love, he furthers, means not taking sides. "*Kaya mahilig akong gumitna*. During the 1987 Charter ratification, I was not for a yes or a no. *Nandoon ako sa or*," he claims. "People say I'm mad, but they've been saying that since I was an activist so I pay them no heed."

Being in the middle allows him the luxury of having an objective point of view, says Pabelo, and the room to defend issues and personalities from both sides. When people press him on where he really stands, he says, "It depends on the issue and on who is right."

Pabelo is married to diabetologist Dr. Araceli Abrogina Pabelo, with whom he has four children, aged 10 to 19. Three other adopted daughters are all professionals now, he says proudly, and rightly so. He took them in when his widowed sister was dying of cancer and worried about her young ones having nowhere to go. He volunteered to take them in, says Pabelo, though it meant he had to marry one of his



three girlfriends posthaste to give the orphans a home. He and his wife then delayed having children to take care of them, he adds.

"I have no regrets," Pabelo says of his colorful life. "I only wish Papa were alive when I run for the Senate in 1987. He would have been proud of me."

Image and imagination

WITH his eyes narrowed to burning slits, his jaws clenched so tightly it gives one a toothache just to watch, and his words spat out between pressed lips, Marcos lawyer Oliver Lozano makes for a formidable foe on camera.

But it is all for show, laughs the guy who was once clapped in jail for contempt for railing then Rep. Roilo Golez in a congressional hearing on illegal drugs. It is a carefully cultivated image, says, this 61-year-old UP law graduate. "When media built up my name as Mr. Due Process, I had to live up to the monicker. I want to be seen as a fighting lawyer." It is an image that impresses a lot of people and attracts a lot of clients, he adds.

Even his responses are calculated, says Lozano. "If the hosts and panelists in TV talk shows are amiable, I am also amiable. But when they're rude, I answer back. *Tinatapatan ko sila*. You have to fight back to gain their respect."

But such beliefs have a steep price, sighs Lozano son, Wendell, 32, a medical doctor at Clinica Manila. The young Lozano recounts how, in 1986, he saw his father arrested and accused of killing Steve Salcedo, a Cory follower stomped to death by Marcos Loyalists for wearing a yellow shirt. "I saw him on TV, *nagpipiyano* (being fingerprinted), and I know he was innocent because he was here at home. It was so unfair, I wanted to rebel and join the RAM."

Always, they worry for his security, adds Wendell. "On January 20 this year, he went to Mendiola to talk the riot police out of harassing the remaining Erap supporters," he recounts. "My brothers and I went along just to protect him." Sometimes even the name provokes adverse reactions, says the young medic. "I was once introduced to a woman patient as Dr. Lozano, and she said, 'Oh, I hope you're not related to Atty. Lozano.' I said I am, but that lawyers, like doctors, serve those who need them no matter their political color." Contrary to his public image, says Wendell, his father "has a great sense of humor and is very religious."

But it is the grim-faced Marcos Loyalist that people see in Lozano, and it is an association that this Ilocos Norte son is proud of. "I was first year college when Marcos became a congressman, then a senator. He was a brilliant, eloquent lawyer with a vision," recalls Lozano. When Marcos became President and the target of intense criticism, this Dingras native took it upon himself to defend his idol. Even his occasional criticisms were meant to shore up support for him, he adds. "I opposed some of Marcos' decisions but not to bring him

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Fate: "Where God put you, there you belong, even if it's a dangerous place"



'The Devil I Am'

THE "CONTROVERSY" YOU ALLUDE TO IS LARGELY MEDIA-DRIVEN.

ONE PRIVATE PROSECUTOR FOR THE IMPEACHMENT TRIAL NOW LAWYERS FOR MARK JIMENEZ. ANOTHER REPORTEDLY LAWYERS FOR A MARCOS CRONY. FORMER U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL RAMSEY CLARK AND SCORES OF OTHERS OFFER TO HELP MILOSEVIC. PEOPLE SEE THESE AS ROUTINE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENTS. CAN YOU IMAGINE THE EXCITEMENT IF I DID ANYTHING LIKE THESE?

(Editor's Note: SIM invited Atty. Rene Saguisag, lawyer of former President Joseph Estrada, to write an essay on being one of the most controversial lawyers today because of his perceived "change in allegiance." Atty. Saguisag indulged us with this statement)

As a law cum laude grad, No. 6 among 5,500 bar examinees, and Harvard Law full scholar who trained in Arnold & Porter in Washington, ex-Cabinet member (spokesman of candidate and later President Cory) and ex-Senator, and IBP Lifetime Achievement Awardee (only President Diosdado Macapagal, and Chief Justices Andres Narvasa and Hilario Davide have been so named previously, and Uncle Jovy Salonga and I became the fourth and fifth honorees last April), I am not a bad lawyer, if not as "effective" as others. I play by the book. I may be hit for many things in my ever-flagging effort at self-improvement. But no one can credibly charge me with having crossed the ethical line. And I do work my butt off, which must be the reason why both sides on impeachment asked me to help last October within 24 hours of each other. I said no to both but when Erap was out of power and no longer the "overdog," I changed my mind after a lot of prayer and consultation.

I could have accepted my January, 1987 signed Supreme Court appointment and been four years senior to Chief Justice Davide (many more were more qualified, and my family could not live on government pay). I walked away from public life in 1992. FVR offered me a position thereafter. I declined. I headed an ad hoc panel formed by Erap to look into the Motorola and Centennial issues. Among my

clients have been President Cory, Cardinal Sin and Justice Palma — who encouraged me to test the ascension of GMA — and countless human rights victims. But, even if Mother Teresa (who has her share of detractors) were my client, I would remain the devil I am.

Mayor Sanchez was not my client in the rape-with-homicide case. Hubert Webb was, in the preliminary investigation of his case (but his trial was handled by others when I could not adjust to the nearly daily hearings, given other commitments). I dealt with Rep. Jalosjos' eligibility-to-run issue.

There is nothing wrong with any lawyer handling any case and accepting the constitutional presumption of innocence. No lawyer should say "you are guilty, I cannot help you." Our canons of ethics say our personal belief on guilt is irrelevant. A guilty person with able proper representation may get community service, probation, a short sentence or life (where it could be lethal injection otherwise; I oppose the death penalty, against which I filibustered in my time, abandoned by all save Senators Tamano, Enrile and Lina). Erap faces lethal injection. I remain opposed to the death penalty. If for this alone, I am not uncomfortable helping him.

Once praised in one oral argument by Supreme Court Chief Justice Enrique M. Fernando as "better than Tañada and Diokno," I find myself associated today with other fascinating mavericks, who have their roles to play.

Today the Saguisag law office praxis remains largely *pro bono*, or *puro abono*. I am *abonado*, not an *abogado*. As a human being, lawyer and Christian, I say if anyone needs help and/or has no one else, let's talk. I will continue to lose friends but if I cared for approval or popularity, I would not be what I am today. What I crave is a sporting chance for those the world hates.

As the perpetual outsider, I choose to take the road less traveled, marching to the beat of a different drummer. I am "controversial" because some feel my practice must be subjected to a referendum including how much I charge (which at times creates problems when making *entrega* to my wife as it



Saguisag: "What I crave is a sporting chance for those the world hates"

must be the *kulasis* enjoying what rumor says I get, e.g. P9 M from Mayor Sanchez. It was zero but what a lawyer charges or doesn't is a private matter to begin with).

The *masa* comprise my kind of people. Decades ago, I made a conscious choice to try to help redress the balance in our society where the elite monopolize the best talents. Dulce and I left good jobs abroad and came home. I helped set up the San Bida Free Legal Aid Clinic when I returned in 1971. Later, I joined Ka Pepe Diokno's FLAG and subsequently, co-founded Mabini. Then, I got flak as a communist from Marcos, the military and the elite.

You are never so alone as when you are branded a criminal. If you need me, just call out my name, and I will be there, concerned over the despised least of my brethren, in pale imitation of Christ. If we can defend plant and animal rights, why not human rights? I learned *ora et labora* in San Bida. The Benedictine community, by and large, does not apologize for me. If Christ were here, he would visit Erap, who now attends religious services more often. Way to go.

I believe in certain things deeply, and fight for them fiercely, and hang the costs and consequences. If there's anyone out there I have not managed to offend yet, please raise your right hand, baby.

I hope to land on the right side of history. If I don't, I hope to be judged by the Great Scorer, not on whether I won or lost, but how I played the Game of Life; not on the testimony of a single incident or two, but by the manifestation of my entire life. On that basis, I fervently pray I do not land where my foes tell me where to go. □

Stylish to the Tips

“WHEN I WAS A KID, I WANTED TO BE A BALLET DANCER,” SAYS SMART AND SASSY PAULINE SUACO. HARDLY ANYONE, AFTER ALL, GROWS UP THINKING THAT SHE WOULD ONE DAY BE THE EDITOR IN CHIEF OF PREVIEW MAGAZINE AND ONE OF THREE OWNERS OF NAIL SPA, THE FIRST LOUNGE-TYPE PLACE IN METRO MANILA WHICH CATERS TO NAIL CARE. ALTHOUGH SHE WAS ACTIVE IN HIGH SCHOOL — SHE WAS PART OF THE DRAMA GUILD AT THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION ACADEMY — SHE STILL HAD NO IDEA WHAT SHE REALLY WANTED TO BE.

She ended up taking AB Communication at the Ateneo. There, theater continued to keep Pauline busy, being a member of Tanghalang Ateneo (TA). She was also part of the college student council.

After graduation, Pauline obtained her Master's degree in Media and Communications from the London School of Economics. She also did television work for “Che-che Lazaro Presents,” a travel show under Probe Productions, eventually becoming the show's executive producer. “The hours are — to put it mildly — hectic,” Pauline says of her days at Probe. After two and a half years of TV life, she decided that she needed a break.

It was around this time that she, along with her co-owners, began conceptualizing Nail Spa. “This is actually a case of something born out of a need,” says Pauline. “We were frantically trying to book a manicure and pedicure. We called all the parlors in Makati. They were all booked on a Saturday,” she narrates. Thinking that manicures and pedicures were hot commodities, she and her friends looked into the idea of putting up their own salon catering to nail care and found that it was viable.

The result was Nail Spa in Shangri-La Plaza, which Pauline co-owns with Anna Ricardo and Cherina Chilip. Unlike a typical salon, the Nail Spa has comfortable white couches, soft pillows, and classic cool blue walls. Anna explains that customers can choose from Express, Pamper, and Bliss, all having the basic cleaning and polish, with varying degrees of services. There are plain massages and reflexology,

hand scrubs and foot scrubs, bubble bliss and mudpacks for feet. They also sell hand and feet accessories such as bracelets, slippers and handbags. “*Stiyempre*, if you're going to have a really nice manicure or pedicure, you might as well flaunt it, right?”

Surprisingly, they have had quite a number of male customers since they opened in April. Teenagers come in, and the boys decide to get a cleaning and a massage while waiting for their friends. Some even come in on dates. “We could also customize a bridal shower,” offers Pauline. “It's a good idea, because now we are leaning towards the spa instead of the raunchy may-I-have-a-macho-dancer type of shower!”


It took over a year for Nail Spa to go from idea to actual opening. During that time, Pauline opted not to return to TV work, and decided to try working for Preview. “I was always flirting with the idea of working in fashion. In one way, it was just following what I was always interested in,” she explains. At first, it seemed as though graduating from Ateneo held her back. “It was one of those Ateneo things *na*, ‘Oh, you have to do something for God and country,’ stuff like that.”

She came to realize, however, that there are other ways of contributing to making daily life a little better. “There are days when very real people just don't want to think and they unwind and get a magazine. And they just forget all their problems for an hour or 30 minutes, the amount of time it takes them to read your magazine. You help them think of other stuff than things that really depress them.”

The job of editor in chief of a fashion magazine seems to have been tailor-made for Pauline, whom Cherina describes as naturally fashionable. It also allows her to keep up with the latest trends, which she and her partners can incorporate at the Nail Spa. Neither having a set 9-to-5 routine, Pauline's two jobs seem to go, er, hand in hand.

“I think I've been really, really blessed to have been given the opportunities, work-wise, that I have,” she says, “but for me it's just the beginning.” Despite having been executive producer of a TV show, being editor in chief of a magazine and the owner of her own business, Pauline still does not consider herself successful. She believes that having a title has less to do with success, and more to do with potential. “I think the challenge is to be able to live out the potential or to be able to do something with the position. It doesn't end with having a title. It actually starts there because you have to live up to it.”

For someone who has two jobs to hold down, Pauline seems to handle the inherent stress quite gracefully. Always appearing unhurried, she attributes this ability to manage everything well to her college days. Juggling academics, rehearsals that lasted until late in the evening, and her responsibilities as a student council officer became second nature for her. “It kind of sets a precedent for life, that if you're not busy, *parang may kulang* (something seems to be missing),” she relates.

With a personal style that is dictated by her mood, Pauline can easily go from casual to feminine to funky. Wearing sophisticated knee-length skirts on some days and jeans and halter tops on others, Pauline can look good in anything. Young, pretty, and talented, she can be anything she wants to be — especially a nail spa owner. 

Pauline Suaco holds court at the Nail Spa



Johnny Villena

Death or Taxes

American tobacco companies, which face monumental lawsuits and taxation at home, see the Philippines as a great place to do business

FILIPINOS HAVE HAD A LOVE AFFAIR WITH TOBACCO SINCE IT FIRST ARRIVED IN THE COUNTRY WITH THE SPANIARDS IN THE LATE 16TH CENTURY. THE ADDICTIVE WEED SPREAD FASTER THAN SPANISH AUTHORITY, OR EVEN CHRISTIANITY FOR THAT MATTER. WITHIN A FEW GENERATIONS IT WAS BEING SMOKED BY IGOROTS IN THE MOUNTAINS, SNIFFED AS SNUFF (POWDERED TOBACCO) BY SPANISH GENTRY IN MANILA AND MIXED WITH BETEL NUT AND CHEWED BY MOSLEMS IN MINDANAO. FILIPINOS WERE NOTORIOUS FOR SMOKING ALL DAY LONG AND LETTING THEIR CHILDREN SMOKE PRACTICALLY AS SOON AS THEY COULD WALK.

Philippine soil was ideal for growing tobacco, and the quality of the leaves produced rivaled the famous output of Cuba. In fact, Cuban cigars became stale during the long voyage across the Pacific, so Philippine cigars were pre-eminent in Asian markets. The Spanish colonial government could not ignore such a potential source of wealth, and a government monopoly was clamped on the Luzon tobacco industry in 1782.

Tobacco could only be grown in designated areas and sold in licensed government shops. Armies of inspectors were used to count every plant and leaf to make sure farmers were not pilfering the crop. Naturally the people were outraged, and troops had to be called in on a number of occasions to suppress angry revolts.

On the whole, though, the government monopoly proved immensely profitable despite its unpopularity. For the first time in its history as a Spanish colony, the Philippines was able to balance its national budget without aid from Spain, and was even able to send profits back to Madrid. By the middle of the 19th century the tobacco monopoly accounted for more than half the national tax revenues.

Initially, almost all tobacco cultivation in Luzon was restricted by the government monopoly to an area around Gapan, Nueva Ecija, Cagayan and Marinduque were allotted another 5 percent of the officially sanctioned harvest. Smuggling from the Visayas



Filipina enjoying a cigar circa 1920. J. Best collection

was difficult to control, and Negritos in the high, inaccessible mountains raised tobacco as a cash crop and sold it to *indio* runners who would smuggle it into Manila. The government processed all its cured tobacco in five plants in and around Manila. These were the first large factories to be built in the city. By the mid-19th century the monopoly employed over 20,000 women and girls, some as young as 14, to silently roll cigars and cigarettes by hand, all day, six days a week.

The government tobacco monopoly was ended in 1882 in an attempt to expand the market and increase production. However, by then the Spanish regime was in decline and the general economy along with it. When the Americans arrived in 1898 they realized the value of the tobacco industry and adjusted their tariffs to stimulate the market. Exports of cigars, cigarettes and leaf tobacco more than doubled during the first decades of American occupation.

When European explorers first discovered tobacco in the Americas in the early 16th century, it was proclaimed to be everything from a harmless intoxicant to an herbal cure-all. American Indians had apparently used it for centuries for relaxation, medicinal purposes and in religious ceremonies as other religions use wine and incense. European promoters claimed its effectiveness in curing everything from headaches to tumors.

Unfortunately, these medicinal qualities proved largely erroneous, and nagging doubts as to tobacco's safety finally erupted in a major confrontation. In 1964, the Surgeon General of the United States officially reported that cigarette smoking causes lung cancer. Since then tobacco smoking has been linked to many other forms of cancer, and also heart disease, stroke and emphysema.

American per capita consumption of tobacco has dramatically decreased since the 1960s due to an aggressive public education campaign and steadily rising taxes on cigarettes. In the Philippines the love affair with nicotine continues, with one of the highest per capita consumption rates in the world and some of the cheapest cigarette prices. Naturally American tobacco companies, which face monumental lawsuits and taxation at home, see the Philippines as a great place to do business. Phillip Morris has recently announced multi-million dollar expansion plans for its Southern Tagalog plant.

The nicotine in processed tobacco is highly addictive, much more so than many drugs such as alcohol, marijuana or cocaine, which are highly regulated or outlawed around the world. The United States should not be exporting this public health hazard to the Philippines and the Philippine government should not be encouraging it. So far the best weapons against the tobacco industry have been public education and taxes.

Remember the days of those highly desirable "blue seal" cigarettes, which were imported or smuggled in from the United States? Well, the blue seal was the tax stamp and part of America's slow but steady battle against smoking. The Philippines should do the same: double, triple, and quadruple the taxes on cigarettes and use the money for education and public health. Philippine tobacco companies would be up in arms as would masses of working class smokers but at least new tobacco taxes would do some real good in terms of public health for the poor. They might even help the government get out of debt as they did once before.

Comments welcome < endpage2000@hotmail.com >

down. I wanted the anti-Marcos forces to stop criticizing him." In the process, he helped in the release of some political detainees, Lozano claims, including labor leader Bonifacio Tupas. His court motions in the early '70s also helped roll back oil prices, he says grandly.

But it is his defense of Marcos that has earned him the admiration of the opposition, says Lozano. "The anti-Marcos groups told me, 'We admire you for your consistency, your integrity...you didn't get rich because of Marcos, nor did you get any juicy position.'" Money was never an issue, he claims. "People are saying that I'm getting a percentage of the Marcos wealth in return for my services. Well, why don't they investigate? They'd find out that I don't own a single land title. Why, I still live in my in-laws' place!" To send his four children to college literally meant "blood and sweat," he adds. Lozano has four children, two of them doctors, one a businessman, and the youngest a law student.

A confessed religious man ("Pastor nga ang tawag sa akin"), Lozano says he spices his legal pleadings with Biblical quotes and religious proverbs. He sees absolutely no contradiction between his association with the Marcoses and his avowals of spirituality, he adds. "I live a dangerous life," Lozano claims, "and sometimes I'm afraid. There's no one to turn to, so I pray. It works."

Religion, however, has little to do with his other choice of clients, among them alleged drug lords Alfredo Tiongo and Florencio Parena and Abu Sayyaf leader Galib Andang alias Commander Robot. "I've always been an advocate of due process, no matter who is involved," he says.

Lozano, the son of a washerwoman and a PC sergeant, also believes in fate. "Where God put you, there you belong. Even if it's a dangerous place."

Such faith — and the Marcos wealth — prompted him to seek public office in the last elections, he says. "I had a concrete agenda. When other people run for office, they keep making promises. But where will they get the money? Me? I have a concrete solution. Had I won, I would have helped Mrs. Marcos release the \$647-million Marcos deposit at the Philippine National Bank. I've talked with Mrs. Marcos and she said that Marcos' last will is sacred to her." The money, he adds, would go a long way to boost the country's economy and lift the sagging peso.

Oh, but he doesn't associate with thieves, Lozano bristles when asked about the possible source of the Marcos millions. "I did my own investigation and I found out that the young Marcos was into gold trading early on and was given the Yamashita gold to boot." Yamashita, claims Lozano, gave Marcos the map to the hidden gold when the young soldier visited the Tiger of Malaya in his hospital bed in Baguio. "Marcos got the gold and hid it, waiting for the 40 years proscription period to lapse to evade the claims of the original owners. Unfortunately, he was driven out at Edsa even before the 40 years was up.

"Now you'd ask, why didn't Mrs. Marcos release it herself? Because of complicated security arrangements. That's why Imelda is aching for reconciliation. It is only in the Marcos wealth where our hope for economic recovery lies. It's the only way to make this nation great again," says Lozano, sounding very much like the fallen leader he idolizes.



Pinoy NGA!

by Jess Abrera

Noontime Show



Malinche
(For Courtney)

Many Mexicans continue to revile the woman called Doña Marina by the Spaniards and La Malinche by the Aztecs, labeling her a traitor and harlot for her role as the alter-ego of Cortes in his conquest of Mexico.

If indeed, as they accuse me, I have let you in,
let the banner and the armor
and the sword of you in,
it is because into your world
you first allowed me soft
and ungrudging entry.
My people do not see,
in the sun-struck clarity of their dreams,
I have merely returned the favor.
Not to the vengeful conquering god
with skin gleaming pale as bleached maize,
but to the man whose random sing-song tongue
I learned to hear, to trick and follow
as it skipped and flitted through limbless words:
the dull entanglements of an alien music.
Lit up from its roots by hope, it trilled and
lolloped and shyly swiveled,
and I began to see, as if through a curtain
parting, the mist-borne crystal in your eyes,
warm ocean in your mouth in which I craved to swim,
for in its depths I may lie lost and drowned, but
free.
How strange, for it is only now I realize
my shame, this wordless love for strangers:
the delicate sandaled feet, their fitful fingers,
the famished look in their open faces
laved by an astonishment
I cannot hope to share, unless I myself depart,
set sail for the horizon hemming in my home.
Every other sound you made told me
I am lovely, your gaze a potter's callused hands
drawing, stroking me to shape. In your clasp
I seek the opportunity to come alive,
as flat upon my mother's mat I am mostly dead,
or at least mournfully suspended, pendant over my
soul's
dim basin. One day soon it shall be written:
because of me an empire fell, a nation lost its heart,
its memories of gold. Why should I care, in truth?
On the proffered palm of a stranger
my joy's flame-red fruit pulsed and beckoned.
A child, I simply took and ate.

J. Neil Carmelo Garcia

The Sunday Inquirer Magazine accepts contributions for our regular poetry section. Interested contributors should send a printed copy of the poem (which may be in English or Filipino) together with a self-addressed stamped envelope to Ruel S. De Vera, poetry editor, Sunday Inquirer Magazine, Chino Roces (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Mascardo and Yague Streets, Makati City 1263, or e-mail to <sim@inquirer.com.ph>

Art

Basta Busto, a multimedia exhibit by Rogger Basco of contemporary women in a sculptural show, until August 6 at Bulwagang Fernando Amorsolo, Cultural Center of the Philippines, Roxas Blvd., Pasay.

Self-Contained, first solo exhibit of Mark B. Del Rosario, runs until August 4 at The White Wall Gallery of Odd Manila, ground floor of Ang Bahay ng Alumni Building, UP Diliman.

Triskaidekaphobia, a two-man show by Chitz Ramirez and Eric Zamuco, until August 7 at West Gallery, Glorietta 4, Makati City.



"Still Life and Dreams" by Raul Lebajo, at the Art Center of SM Megamall, until August 6

F1, Mario Panis' first solo exhibit of pastel paintings at The Heritage Gallery, The Artwalk, 4th Level, SM Megamall Bldg. A, August 3-13. For details, call 634-2436.

The Alcove Photo Gallery presents R. Hidalgo Laurel's collection of 15 photographs depicting Binondo and the Children of Juan Luna until July 31 at the Filipinas Heritage Library, Makati Avenue, Makati City.

Still Life and Dreams, an exhibit of oil paintings by Raul Lebajo at the Art Center, SM Megamall until August 6. For details, call 831-9990.

Music

The **CCP Filipino Artists Series** celebrates its 15th anniversary on July 31 at the CCP Little Theater with an exciting lineup of young outstanding musical artists led by bass/baritone Jonathan Zaens, flutist Antonio Mague, cellist Wilfredo Pasamba and pianist Mariel Ilusorio. For details, call 832-2314. **Padi's Mindave** (Mindanao Avenue, QC) features Rivermaya in a special concert on August 1, Parokya ni Edgar on August 16 and Freestyle on August 22 and 27. It also invites the public to join the "New Singing Star Search" competition and the "Mindave Battle of the Bands." For details, call 414-4930 to 34.

For this week's bands and schedules call:

- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

Onstage

Dramatis Personae presents August Strindberg's expressionistic drama on guilt, remorse and spiritual restitution, **Journey to Damascus**, on July 29, August 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 25, 26, September 2, 8 and 9 at the Pius XII Theater, Pius XII Catholic Center, UN Avenue, Manila. For details, call 412-0617 and 722-4205.

Cinema

CinemaLibre Film Society screens **Miss Congeniality** at the UP Film Center, Magsaysay Avenue, Diliman, QC on July 31, 4 and 7 p.m. sponsored by the UP Computer Society. Admission is free.

Food

Ultimate Unagi festival features 15 tempting unagi (eel) dishes at Edsa Shangri-La's Inaho Tei restaurant until July 31. Complement your meal with sake wine, bottomless iced tea or drink or wine of the month.

Inagiku Restaurant at Makati Shangri-La offers diners the best **Japanese Sake** until July 31 featuring 12 premium and hard-to-find Japanese sake brands including two of the most expensive in the market namely lichiko Shochu and Kubota Manju. **Harley Cat**, a combination of Absolut Kurant Vodka, Galliano Liqueur and pineapple and fresh orange juice whipped in ice, is Manila Diamond Hotel's cocktail of the month available at all bars and restaurants of the hotel.

Sarimanok is Holiday Inn Manila's cocktail of the month. A colorful infusion of green mango juice, honey dew, peach, Havana Silver, a dash of Grenadine Syrup and Blue Curacao, the drink comes with a colorful sarimanok stuffed toy.

Sariling Atin Merienda, delicious native delicacies such as ginataang halo-halo, kutsinta, biko, suman, turones de Manila, dinuguan with puto, pancit Malabon and Filipino style pizza available daily except Sundays from 3-5:30 p.m. at Grand Boulevard Hotel's Café Fontana.

Eel Treats, a delectable selection of exciting eel dishes available for lunch and dinner at the Pavilion Court of Holiday Inn Manila until July 31. For inquiries, call 526-1212 ext. 2503.

Galleria Sunrise, a blend of vodka, liquor and melon, is Manila Galleria Suites' drink of the month available at the Monet Bar-Lounge.

C2 Restaurant and Bar at the 5th level of the AIM Conference Center in Makati offers a relaxing atmosphere for after-office chitchats and the best of European and Asian cuisine. Indulge in soup dishes, salad creations, main course surprises and desserts, plus a variety of wines and beverages. For details, call 750-1010 loc. 2081.

Magoo's gift checks at P100 and P50 are now available online. Log on to www.magoos.com to order your gift checks and they would be delivered right at your doorstep. The gift checks are also available at all Magoo's outlets and can be used for dine-in, take-out and delivery.

Atbp

The Philippine Society of Youth Science Clubs Inc. invites all elementary and high school science enthusiasts to join the **science clubbing movement**. PSYSC conducts annual interactive workshops, science camps and field trips. Affiliation is ongoing until September 30. For details, call 920-8174 and 920-9561.

BluPrint Magazine, the first publication to encapsulate the

finest in architecture and design here and abroad, features an in-depth look at the first 50 years of Philippine design in its second anniversary issue. Copies are now available at leading bookstores and newsstands.

Liz Claiborne (Shangri-La Plaza Mall, Edsa) has a special Bounce Back offer until July 31. For every minimum purchase, customers will receive a Bounce Back voucher worth 25 percent which can be used on their next purchase.

The White Bicycle, a group of young poets, will present a reading of its original poems on July 31 at Café Literati, 3rd floor, Goodwill Bookstore, Glorietta, Makati for the Goodwill Poetry Reading Circle. The reading session is open to the public. For details, call 810-5930.

The Blue Eagles Gymnastics Academy offers **gymnastics** classes for boys and girls at the Ateneo de Manila High School covered court, Katipunan Ave., Loyola Heights, QC. For inquiries, call 411-9054 or 920-8657.

The **Goodwill Book Club** holds a book discussion today on the novella "The Dying Animal" by Philip Roth about obsessive love, sex in the academe and eros games, 1-3 p.m. at the Café Literati, Goodwill Bookstore, Glorietta, Makati City.

A Life Shaped by Music, a book that chronicles the life and triumphs of the Philippine Madrigal Singers under National Artist for Music Prof. Andrea O. Veneracion, will be launched today, 6 p.m. at the Main Theater Lobby of the CCP to be followed by a special gala concert by the Madz. For details, call 831-4015.

Esprit offers up to 50 percent discount on selected items like pants, shirts, skirts and dresses until July 31. Visit all Esprit shops and Cinderella outlets for your best buys.

Milestones, a bridal fashion show presented by the Fashion Designers Association of the Philippines at 5 p.m. today, Hotel de Intramuros, Plaza San Luis Complex, Gen. Luna St., Intramuros, Manila. A dialogue with guest Fanny Serrano, who will share his expertise about weddings, will be held at 3 p.m. Extraderm Plus brings its **Alagang Expert** mobile clinic to Glorietta 4, Ayala Center, Makati until July 31. Customers get free skin analysis and consultation from dermatologists. In addition, purchasing an Extraderm Plus set entitles customers to a free facial treatment.

Nihongo Center (825 R. Papa St., University Belt, Sampaloc, Manila) offers Japanese language courses: Ikkyuu Course (Aug. 4-Dec. 8); Intensive Course (Aug. 1-Dec. 14); Elementary Business Japanese I (Aug. 20-Nov. 7). For details, call 735-3179 and 892-4916 to 19.

The Parañaque Dental Chapter invites all interested dentists to its 2nd Hirit Scientific Seminar titled "Live Show... Part II" to be held at the Asian Center-Skyline, Filinvest Corporate Center Alabang on August 12. Registration starts at 7:30 a.m. For inquiries, call 809-1678 and 820-2356.

X-manila

Emotional Baggage, a series of drawings by Fernando Escora until August 3 at Tam-awan Village, Pinsao Proper, Baguio City. The Japan Foundation Manila Office sponsors a public lecture titled **Reinventing Tradition in Japan** on August 3, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the University of St. La Salle, La Salle Avenue, Bacolod City. For details, call 811-6155 to 58 or (034) 435-2594.

Fighting Cocks, Raymund Malicay's 24 different paintings of fighting cocks ongoing until August 4 at Davao City's Genluna Gallery. For details, call (082) 226-2104.

Harana sa Bayan, a special project of the CCP, will have its outreach tours in Musuan Bukidnon (July 30) and Butuan City (July 31 and August 1). Guest performers are Nelyn Cabahug, Lisa Cabahug and Vladimir Valera. For details, call 832-3674.

The **SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE** welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules and tickets. You can reach us by e-mail at sim@inquirer.com.ph or by fax at 897-4811.